

# AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, IRELAND.

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## GENERAL ABSTRACTS

SHOWING

THE ACREAGE UNDER THE SEVERAL CROPS,

AND THE

NUMBER OF LIVE STOCK

IN

EACH COUNTY AND PROVINCE,

FOR THE YEAR

1873.

ALSO, THE EMIGRATION FROM IRISH PORTS FROM 1ST JANUARY  
TO 31ST JULY, IN 1872 AND 1873,

AND THE NUMBER OF SCUTCHING MILLS IN EACH PROVINCE IN 1872.

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*Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.*

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1873,

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## CONTENTS.

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	Page
Prefatory Remarks, . . . . .	3
Increase in Cereal and Green Crops, . . . . .	4
Decrease in Cereal and Green Crops, . . . . .	4
Abstract of Cereal Crops, . . . . .	4
" Green Crops, . . . . .	5
Extent of Land under Crops, Grass, Fallow, Woods and Plantations, and "Bog and Waste unoccupied," in 1872 and 1873—by Provinces, . . . . .	5
Total extent in Statute Acres of Cereals, Green Crops, &c., from 1869 to 1873, inclusive, . . . . .	6
Total number of Live Stock in Ireland in each year from 1863 to 1873, inclusive, . . . . .	6
Estimated Value of Live Stock in Ireland in each year from 1863 to 1873, inclusive, . . . . .	7
Number of ScutchING Mills in each Province in 1872, . . . . .	7
Emigration, . . . . .	7
Labourers' Dwellings, . . . . .	7
Extirpation of Weeds, . . . . .	7-8
Abstract showing the extent of Land under some of the principal Crops, and of the number of Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs in Great Britain in 1871, 1872, and 1873, from a Return received from the Statistical and Com- mercial Department of the Board of Trade, . . . . .	9
<b>GENERAL ABSTRACTS:</b>	
Acreage under each Crop in 1872 and 1873—by Counties and Provinces, . . . . .	10-15
Number and Description of Live Stock in 1872 and 1873—by Counties and Provinces, . . . . .	16-21
Number of Emigrants from each Province during the first seven months of 1872 and 1873; also the total Irish Emigration since May, 1861, . . . . .	22
<b>APPENDIX:</b>	
Observations and Correspondence respecting the Extirpation of Weeds, . . . . .	23-47

# AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS, IRELAND, 1873.

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TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN POYNTZ, EARL SPENCER, K.G.,

&c., &c., &c.,

LORD LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AND GENERAL GOVERNOR OF IRELAND.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I had the honour of submitting, on the 7th ultimo, a Return by Counties of the acreage under Flax in 1872 and 1873, with the number of Scutching Mills in 1872, and on the 11th ultimo, an Abstract of the number and value of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs, by Provinces and for all Ireland, in 1872 and 1873, with the Increase or Decrease in the latter year. I now beg to submit the annual General Abstracts, which give, as usual, by Counties and Provinces, the total area under each description of Crop; also the total number of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs, and their estimated value.

The Emigration from Ireland, during the first seven months of the same years, is also given.

The collection of the Agricultural Statistics, which commenced on the 2nd of June, occupied about two months. The Enumerators, of whom nearly 3,800 were employed, were selected from the Royal Irish Constabulary and Metropolitan Police, and discharged this duty with their usual efficiency. The various holdings, which amount in all to about 600,000, were visited by them, and the names of the several parties from whom the particulars of Tillage and Live Stock for each holding were obtained, are stated in the Returns, with a view to further inquiry in any case, should it be deemed necessary.

Your Excellency is aware that the information given to the Enumerators is altogether voluntary; and I feel assured it will afford pleasure to your Excellency to learn, as, I beg to say, it is most gratifying to have it in my power to state, that so far as I am informed by the Officers who acted as Superintendents of Districts, the Returns have been collected without difficulty—a fact most highly creditable to the good feeling and intelligence of all ranks and classes connected with land in this country.

The Abstracts have been carefully compiled from summaries made by the Enumerators for their respective districts. They may possibly differ in some degree from the revised figures which will

Success of  
the Enumera-  
tion.

be hereafter published; but I do not anticipate that any change of importance will become necessary.

Extent under Crops.	The total acreage under all Crops this year was . . . . .	5,270,159 acres.
	The do. do. in 1872 (revised numbers)	5,487,313 "
	Showing a decrease in the extent under Crops in 1873 of : . . . . .	217,154 "

Increase in Cereals, Green Crops, and Flax.

The Crops which increased in extent this year are—

		Increase.	
		Acres.	Acres.
CEREALS,	Barley, . . . . .	11,175	12,226
	Beans and Pease, . . . . .	1,051	"
	Turnips, . . . . .	1,193	"
GREEN CROPS,	Mangel and Beet Root, . . . . .	3,350	4,961
	Carrots, Parsnips, and other Green Crops, . . . . .	418	"
	Flax, . . . . .	7,440	"
	Meadow and Clover, . . . . .	37,210	"
	Total Increase on the foregoing Crops, . . . . .	61,837	"

Decrease in Cereals and Green Crops.

The Crops which decreased in acreage in 1873 are—

		Decrease.	
		Acres.	Acres.
CEREALS,	Wheat, . . . . .	56,859	172,216
	Oats, . . . . .	114,622	"
	Bere and Rye, . . . . .	735	"
GREEN CROPS,	Potatoes, . . . . .	88,589	106,775
	Cabbage, . . . . .	11,389	"
	Vetches and Rape, . . . . .	6,797	"
	Total Decrease on the foregoing Crops, . . . . .	275,991	"
	Making a Net Decrease in the area under all Crops of	217,154	"

Crops of 1873 compared with Crops of 1872.

It appears from the foregoing summaries that, compared with 1872, wheat shows a decrease of 56,859 acres, oats of 114,622 acres, bere and rye of 735 acres, potatoes of 88,589 acres, cabbage of 11,389 acres, and vetches and rape of 6,797 acres. In barley there is an increase of 11,175 acres, in beans and pease of 1,051 acres, in turnips 1,193 acres, mangel and beet root 3,350 acres, carrots, parsnips, and other green crops, 418 acres, flax 7,440 acres, and meadow and clover 37,210 acres.

#### ABSTRACT OF CEREAL CROPS.

	1872.	1873.	Increase in 1873.		Decrease in 1873.	
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
WHEAT, . . . . .	225,294	168,435	—	—	56,859	"
OATS, . . . . .	1,624,711	1,510,089	—	—	114,622	"
BARLEY, . . . . .	219,013	230,188	11,175	—	—	735
BERE AND RYE, . . . . .	9,075	9,240	—	—	—	735
BEANS AND PEASE, . . . . .	11,821	12,872	1,051	—	—	—
TOTAL, . . . . .	2,090,814	1,930,624	—	—	159,990	"

Decrease in Cereal Crops in 1873, . . . . . 159,990 Acres.

## ABSTRACT OF GREEN CROPS.

	1872.	1873.	Increase in 1873, Acres.	Decrease in 1873, Acres.
POTATOES, . . . .	991,871	903,232	—	88,639
TURRIPS, . . . .	340,711	347,904	1,193	—
MANGEL WURZEL AND BEET Root, . . . .	34,632	38,182	3,350	—
CABBAGE, . . . .	39,432	28,063	—	11,369
CARROTS, PARSNIPS, AND OTHER GREEN CROPS, . .	31,196	31,614	418	—
VETCHES AND RAPE, . .	30,172	23,375	—	6,797
<b>TOTAL, . . . .</b>	<b>1,474,234</b>	<b>1,372,420</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>101,814</b>

Decrease in Green Crops in 1873, . . 101,814 Acres.

## GENERAL SUMMARY OF CEREAL AND GREEN CROPS, &amp;c.

		Acres.	Acres.
Decrease in Cereal Crops	in 1873, . . . .	159,090	261,804
Do. Green Crops	in do. . . .	101,814	—
Increase in Flax	in do. . . .	7,440	44,650
Do. Meadow and Clover	in do. . . .	37,210	—
Total Decrease in the extent of Land under Crops in 1873, . .		217,154	

The extent under Crops, Grass, Fallow, Woods and Plantations, and Bog and Waste *unoccupied*, in 1872 and 1873, is given by Provinces in the following Table:—

Divist.  
of Land.

PROVINCES.	Extent under Crops,	Grass.	Fallow.	Woods and Plantations.	Bog and Waste Unoccupied.	Total.
LEINSTER, { 1872,	Acres. 1,553,863	Acres. 2,545,849	Acres. 6,395	Acres. 101,346	Acres. 630,275	Acres. 4,837,921
1873, 1,471,519	2,638,547	5,715	101,243	630,897		
MUNSTER, { 1872,	1,319,669	3,351,837	6,899	112,148	1,144,236	5,934,789
1873, 1,206,833	3,402,220	3,856	109,851	1,151,979		
ULSTER, { 1872,	1,874,084	2,233,341	4,063	60,951	1,147,348	5,319,787
1873, 1,810,737	2,254,902	3,138	61,726	1,189,289		
CONNACTH, { 1872,	739,697	2,115,095	1,047	51,058	1,326,299	4,233,196
1873, 721,020	2,125,026	770	50,963	1,335,417		
<b>TOTAL, { 1872,</b>	<b>5,487,314</b>	<b>10,246,115</b>	<b>18,404</b>	<b>325,703</b>	<b>4,248,158</b>	<b>20,325,693*</b>
<b>1873,</b>	<b>5,270,159</b>	<b>10,420,695</b>	<b>13,474</b>	<b>323,783</b>	<b>4,307,582</b>	

\* Exclusive of the larger Rivers, Lakes, and Tideways.

The acreage under the head of "Bog and Waste *unoccupied*," had not any Live Stock on it at the period of the enumeration.

The area under the several Crops in each year from 1869 to 1873, inclusive, was as under:—

Crops.	1869.	1870.	1871.	1872.	1873.
Wheat, . . . . .	Acres. 280,460	Acres. 259,846	Acres. 244,451	Acres. 225,294	Acres. 168,435
Oats, . . . . .	1,685,240	1,560,039	1,636,136	1,624,711	1,510,069
Barley, . . . . .	221,710	241,285	220,970	219,013	230,188
Bere and Rye, . . . . .	11,183	11,797	11,555	9,975	9,240
Beans and Pease, . . . . .	9,955	10,689	10,913	11,821	12,872
Potatoes, . . . . .	1,041,902	1,048,583	1,058,434	991,871	903,391
Turnips, . . . . .	322,072	339,059	327,036	346,711	347,904
Mangel and Beet Root, . . . . .	21,129	25,400	31,921	34,832	38,182
Cabbage, . . . . .	32,263	34,979	33,008	39,452	28,063
Carrots, Parsnips, and other Green Crops, . . . . .	26,501	27,712	29,869	31,196	31,814
Vetches and Rape, . . . . .	25,395	27,890	31,422	30,172	23,375
Flax, . . . . .	229,252	194,910	156,670	121,092	129,432
Meadow and Clover, . . . . .	1,670,716	1,778,851	1,820,044	1,800,273	1,837,483

## Live Stock.

## RETURNS OF LIVE STOCK.

It appears from the following Table that the Returns of Live Stock for 1873 when compared with 1872 show a *decrease* in the number of Horses of 8,828;—an *increase* in Cattle of 83,003;—and in Sheep of 218,799; and a *decrease* of Pigs amounting to 346,327.

## Number of Live Stock.

The following are the numbers of Live Stock for each year from 1863 to 1873, inclusive:—

Years.	Number of Horses.	Number of Cattle.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Pigs.
1863, . . . . .	579,978	3,144,231	3,308,204	1,037,428
1864, . . . . .	562,158	3,202,294	3,366,941	1,058,489
1865, . . . . .	548,339	3,497,548	3,694,356	1,305,933
1866, . . . . .	535,799	3,746,157	4,274,282	1,497,274
1867, . . . . .	524,180	3,707,803	4,835,519	1,235,191
1868, . . . . .	524,703	3,646,796	4,801,496	869,573
1869, . . . . .	528,201	3,733,675	4,651,195	1,082,224
1870, . . . . .	532,657	3,798,912	4,836,884	1,461,215
1871, . . . . .	538,005	3,976,372	4,233,435	1,621,423
1872, . . . . .	540,974	4,050,397	4,263,254	1,388,571
1873, . . . . .	532,146	4,142,400	4,482,033	1,042,244
<i>Difference in Numbers between 1872 and 1873,</i>	<i>Decrease. 8,828</i>	<i>Increase. 83,003</i>	<i>Increase. 218,799</i>	<i>Decrease. 346,327</i>

## Value of Live Stock.

The *total estimated* value of Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Pigs this year, is £37,415,881, being an increase of £276,665 when compared with 1872, as appears by the following Table:—

ESTIMATED VALUE of LIVE STOCK in IRELAND in each Year from 1863 to 1873, inclusive, calculated according to the rates assumed by the Census Commissioners of 1841, viz.:—For Horses, £8 each; Cattle, £6 10s.; Sheep, 22s.; and Pigs, 2s. each. [These rates have been retained since 1841, in order to facilitate a comparison of the value—one year with another. A per-cent may be added by anyone at pleasure on account of the increased value of live stock since that period.]

Years.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total Value.
1863,	4,639,824	20,437,501	3,639,024	1,334,322	30,050,671
1864,	4,497,264	21,204,911	3,703,635	1,323,100	30,728,910
1865,	4,386,712	22,734,062	4,063,782	1,632,441	32,817,007
1866,	4,286,392	24,350,020	4,701,710	1,871,593	35,209,715
1867,	4,193,440	24,100,719	5,319,071	1,543,989	35,157,319
1868,	4,197,624	23,704,174	5,391,646	1,086,972	34,380,416
1869,	4,223,608	24,268,888	5,116,314	1,352,780	34,963,590
1870,	4,261,256	24,690,428	4,770,572	1,826,519	35,557,775
1871,	4,304,760	25,846,418	4,656,779	2,026,779	36,834,736
1872,	4,327,792	26,386,081	4,689,579	1,785,714	37,139,166
1873,	4,257,168	26,925,600	4,930,258	1,802,805	37,415,831
Difference in Value between 1872 and 1873,	Decrease. £70,624	Increase. £539,519	Increase. £240,679	Decrease. £432,909	Increase. £276,665

*Scutching Mills.*—The number of Mills for scutching Flax in each province in 1872, was—In Ulster, 1,375;—Leinster, 36;—Munster, 39;—Connaught, 32;—making in all 1,482.

Scutching  
Mills.

*Emigration.*—In the first seven months of 1872 the Returns of Emigrants from the several ports of Ireland show that 54,995 persons left this country. The number for the same period in 1873 was 66,521, being an increase of 11,526 persons during this year. The emigration referred to is given by months for 1872 and 1873 at page 22.

Emigration.

*Labourers' Dwellings.*—It is scarcely possible, both on social and sanitary grounds, to exaggerate the importance of improving the dwellings of the labouring classes; the Legislature has enabled the Treasury to grant loans for this most desirable object through the medium of the Board of Public Works, Dublin. According to the Census of 1871, the number of *fourth-class houses* in Ireland, most of which had only *one room for the entire family of EVERY AGE AND SEX*, was ascertained to be very considerable, but has not yet been finally revised, and in these were living nearly *half a million* of persons.

Labourers'  
Dwellings.

*Weeds.*—Although great improvement in the breeds and value of every description of Farm Stock has taken place in Ireland since 1841,—when the collection of these Statistics commenced,—it must be admitted that a corresponding improvement has not taken place in the cultivation of the land. At the present moment this is but too apparent on farms generally. On several occasions I felt it my duty to call attention to the incalculable injury arising

from the unchecked growth of weeds which is, unhappily, permitted in almost every part of the country, and also on the sides of roads, railways, and canals. On this subject I have now given, as I did last year, in the Appendix extracts from the General Abstracts of Tillage and Live Stock published in 1856 and 1857, containing valuable information from the writings of Sir John Sinclair and other eminent persons, which I trust will prove useful to those engaged in the cultivation of land. I have also given, at pages 45 to 47, some extracts respecting the great injury and pecuniary loss caused by weeds in Ireland from that valuable publication, the "Leisure Hour," in its number for May and June of this year. At the annual meeting in 1872 of the Royal Agricultural Society in Belfast, the noble President, Lord Lurgan, K.P., referred to "the necessity of acting on the suggestions thrown out in the Reports of the Registrar-General in relation to the extirpation of weeds. "They did a deal of mischief, and he thought they should carry out "the sentence which the old Scotch law pronounced, declaring "anyone to be a TRAITOR WHO POISONED THE QUEEN'S LAND WITH "WEEDS."

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I again beg to repeat my respectful acknowledgments to the landed proprietors, tenant farmers, the clergy of all denominations, and to the public press in Ireland, for a continuance of the same generous and valuable assistance which I have now for more than twenty years experienced in connexion with these Statistics.

I have the honour to be

Your Excellency's very faithful servant,

WILLIAM DONNELLY,

*Registrar-General.*

*General Register Office,  
Charlemont House, Dublin,  
24th September, 1873.*

## GREAT BRITAIN.

I beg to give the following Summary, which I have received from the Statistical and Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, showing the extent of land under some of the principal crops, also the number of cattle, sheep, and pigs in Great Britain in 1873, and their increase or decrease in the present year, as compared with 1871 and 1872:—

Years.	Extent of Land in Great Britain under				
	Wheat.	Barley.	Oats.	Potatoes.	Hops.
1871 . .	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.
1871 . .	3,571,894	2,385,783	2,718,707	627,691	60,030
1872 . .	3,598,957	2,316,332	2,708,837	564,088	61,927
1873 . .	3,490,302	2,336,020	2,676,234	514,093	63,283
Increase (+) or Decrease (-).					
1873 over 1872	—108,565 or 3·0 per cent.	+19,688 or 0·9 per cent.	—29,603 or 1·1 per cent.	—49,395 or 8·8 per cent.	+1,356 or 2·2 per cent.
1873 over 1871	—81,502 or 2·3 per cent.	+49,763 or 2·1 per cent.	—39,473 or 1·5 per cent.	+112,898 or 18·0 per cent.	+3,253 or 5·4 per cent.
Total Number of Live Stock in Great Britain upon 25th June.					
Years.	Cattle.		Sheep.		Pigs.
	Number.		Number.		Number.
1871, . .	5,337,769		27,119,569		2,499,602
1872, . .	5,624,994		27,921,507		2,771,749
1873, . .	5,964,549		29,427,635		2,500,269
Increase (+) or Decrease (-).					
1873 over 1872	+339,555 or 6·0 per cent.		+1,506,128 or 5·4 per cent.		—271,490 or 9·9 per cent.
1873 over 1871	+626,790 or 11·7 per cent.		+2,308,066 or 8·9 per cent.		+657 —

## GENERAL ABSTRACTS, for each County and Province, showing in

Number.	PROVINCES AND COUNTIES, WITH THEIR ACRES (including water) IN STATUTE ACRES.	EXTENT OF LAND UNDER						
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere and Rye.	Beans and Pease.	Potatoes.	Turips.
	LEINSTER:	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1	Carlow, . . . (1872, 221,342 acres, (1873,	2,967	23,980	4,890	11	1	11,323	5,157
		2,381	21,429	5,525	8		9,933	5,576
2	Dublin, . . . (1872, 226,414 acres, (1873,	7,989	17,468	2,754	208	112	10,455	2,607
		6,408	16,258	2,333	157	95	10,097	2,656
3	Kildare, . . . (1872, 418,436 acres, (1873,	3,161	30,909	15,787	331	37	10,488	18,438
		2,070	26,362	16,002	261	33	9,960	12,961
4	Kilkenny, . . . (1872, 509,732 acres, (1873,	16,875	42,303	13,052	87	11	22,516	11,154
		9,324	40,113	16,085	24	8	19,128	11,049
5	King's, . . . (1872, 493,985 acres, (1873,	2,918	27,811	14,351	590	7	17,910	11,446
		1,396	24,034	16,019	391	6	16,770	10,776
6	Longford, . . . (1872, 269,400 acres, (1873,	780	22,769	50	193	32	15,323	3,254
		892	20,892	63	240	14	13,823	3,188
7	Louth, . . . (1872, 201,722 acres, (1873,	2,828	26,936	24,656	29	347	13,221	9,739
		2,006	25,073	23,560	40	359	12,718	9,806
8	Meath, . . . (1872, 580,063 acres, (1873,	4,044	49,906	2,056	143	227	15,132	8,685
		2,576	37,906	2,035	145	104	14,220	8,062
9	Queen's, . . . (1872, 428,854 acres, (1873,	1,552	23,881	27,236	91	20	18,648	14,144
		1,109	21,352	26,065	42	12	17,194	13,875
10	Westmeath, . . . (1872, 453,468 acres, (1873,	539	31,181	472	192	28	13,840	6,806
		353	27,978	362	127	11	12,848	6,696
11	Wexford, . . . (1872, 376,588 acres, (1873,	10,639	57,335	50,510	85	4,445	27,584	19,081
		8,810	50,176	50,560	23	4,894	23,862	19,516
12	Wicklow, . . . (1872, 500,178 acres, (1873,	4,755	29,605	1,226	12	9	13,193	5,882
		4,556	26,260	1,172	10	5	12,126	5,960
	Total of LEINSTER, (1872, 4,876,211 acres, (1873,	59,047	377,120	157,540	1,972	5,276	189,633	111,315
		41,811	337,833	160,371	1,468	5,701	172,638	110,178
	Increase or Decrease in LEINSTER in 1873, {	De- crease, 17,236	De- crease, 39,287	In- crease, 2,831	De- crease, 504	In- crease, 425	De- crease, 16,995	De- crease, 1,157

## Statute Acres, the extent of Land under Crops in 1872 and 1873.

Crops, in Statute Acres.								Fallow or Un- cropped Arable Land.	Years.	Population in 1871.	Number.
Mangel Wurzel and Beet Root.	Cabbage.	Carrots, Parasips, and other Green Crops.	Vetches and Rape.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.	Total Extent under Crops.					
Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	1872	Leinster:	
749	931	611	65	3	31,618	92,312	129		1873		51,472
917	672	688	40	6	32,191	79,410	137				
687	876	2,112	252	1	48,127	93,650	221				405,625
711	875	2,407	170	.	45,525	87,892	309				
1,318	240	700	394	1	54,311	131,315	439				84,198
1,282	181	551	410	1	52,374	122,357	540				
1,499	1,911	713	580	19	59,945	171,165	2,451				106,302
1,641	1,407	704	356	5	61,203	161,047	2,015				
1,878	583	1,105	1,126	187	48,883	128,805	145				75,781
1,845	298	944	828	30	46,934	120,271	257				
302	1,016	265	178	463	32,931	76,886	79				64,408
376	705	301	143	545	35,324	76,436	111				
403	189	604	894	779	21,977	102,632	121				79,422
380	181	655	608	1,012	21,480	97,865	116				
997	402	1,544	868	275	77,919	155,198	1,385				99,256
1,112	254	1,419	582	230	73,559	142,254	910				
2,194	763	586	311	89	57,925	147,440	180				77,071
2,163	495	649	196	1	58,278	142,031	132				
958	765	809	814	87	51,612	106,085	273				78,418
1,074	488	874	780	54	51,916	103,541	258				
3,582	1,570	1,041	545	140	62,301	238,708	806				132,506
3,541	1,153	1,484	282	20	61,528	226,029	554				
754	686	778	198	.	60,589	117,667	184				78,509
918	457	691	165	.	60,270	112,580	376				
15,271	9,934	10,868	6,425	2,094	607,438	1,553,863	6,395			Total of Leinster,	
15,980	7,166	11,367	4,540	1,904	600,582	1,471,519	5,715			1,335,960	
In- crease, 689	De- crease, 2,768	In- crease, 499	De- crease, 1,885	De- crease, 120	De- crease, 6,806	De- crease, 82,344	De- crease, 680	Increase or Decrease in Leinster in 1873.			

[continued on page 12.]

## GENERAL ABSTRACTS, for each County and Province, showing in Statute

Number.	PROVINCES AND COUNTIES, WITH THEIR AREAS (including water) IN STATUTE ACRES.	EXTENT OF LAND UNDER						
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere and Rye.	Beans and Pease.	Potatoes.	Turp.
	MUNSTER:	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.
1	Clare, . . . { 1872, 837,994 acres, { 1873,	7,939	17,379	2,205	726	460	30,936	6,968
		6,880	10,671	2,645	850	239	28,650	6,849
2	Cork, E.R., { 1872, 1,040,384 acres, { 1873,	16,724	37,132	10,020	67	13	48,475	29,759
		13,100	36,515	18,604	102	18	30,315	29,147
3	Cork, W.R., { 1872, 809,399 acres, { 1873,	7,228	32,523	6,215	72	4	34,506	11,485
		6,101	29,357	6,697	39	6	29,015	11,361
4	Kerry, . . . { 1872, 1,185,917 acres, { 1873,	1,751	27,831	4,332	778	14	33,326	6,373
		1,568	23,130	4,702	795	9	28,631	6,078
5	Limerick, . . . { 1872, 681,112 acres, { 1873,	14,480	24,537	3,931	115	15	30,771	5,638
		11,293	24,323	4,406	77	10	25,936	6,978
6	Tipperary, N.R., { 1872, 524,920 acres, { 1873,	6,223	29,860	7,483	128	6	20,852	13,407
		4,361	25,970	9,781	158	2	18,530	12,941
7	Tipperary, S.R., { 1872, 536,811 acres, { 1873,	12,335	30,398	833	43	1	24,005	8,765
		8,779	36,511	1,533	27	9	20,468	9,249
8	Waterford, . . . { 1872, 461,553 acres, { 1873,	15,463	26,780	1,911	93	8	18,571	8,229
		12,080	26,760	2,133	122	30	15,064	8,314
	Total of Munster, { 1872, 6,067,990 acres, { 1873,	82,045	297,440	42,990	2,022	527	241,432	90,074
		64,108	273,267	50,501	2,170	323	205,609	90,307
	Increase or Decrease in Munster in 1873, {	De- crease, 17,937	De- crease, 24,173	In- crease, 7,511	In- crease, 148	De- crease, 204	De- crease, 35,823	In- crease, 833
	CONNAUGHT:							
1	Galway, . . . { 1872, 1,566,354 acres, { 1873,	11,985	60,257	5,019	1,445	99	56,806	17,739
		10,473	57,656	4,828	1,271	105	54,170	17,317
2	Leitrim, . . . { 1872, 392,363 acres, { 1873,	129	15,988	22	154	3	21,571	770
		207	14,958	9	203	5	20,833	655
3	Mayo, . . . { 1872, 1,363,882 acres, { 1873,	3,889	74,247	2,892	1,712	91	64,661	13,685
		3,203	68,036	3,223	1,642	86	61,316	13,334
4	Roscommon, . . . { 1872, 607,691 acres, { 1873,	918	39,077	61	204	2	34,937	5,383
		551	35,651	128	461	1	31,548	5,150
5	Sligo, . . . { 1872, 461,753 acres, { 1873,	745	33,128	1,840	121	4	26,827	4,165
		888	30,228	1,916	98	3	25,197	4,131
	Total of Connacht, { 1872, 4,399,643 acres, { 1873,	17,688	222,697	9,764	3,720	199	204,802	41,940
		15,322	206,522	10,104	3,675	200	193,064	41,187
	Increase or Decrease in Connacht in 1873, {	De- crease, 2,344	De- crease, 16,175	In- crease, 340	De- crease, 51	In- crease, 1	De- crease, 11,738	De- crease, 753

Acres, the extent of Land under Crops in 1872 and 1873—continued.

Crops, in Statute Acres.							Fallow or Uncropped Arable Land.	Years.	Population in 1871.	Number.
Hemp Wool and Beet Root.	Cabbage.	Carrots, Parsnips, and other Green Crops.	Yardage and Rape.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.	Total Extent under Crops.				
Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	MUNSTER:	
1,061	1,769	619	68	335	74,566	145,083	35	1872	147,994	1
1,213	1,517	516	52	252	79,034	145,324	8	1873		2
4,208	1,885	1,729	3,872	492	102,047	321,743	1,348	1872	339,766	3
4,418	1,253	1,020	2,786	362	104,032	301,692	574	1873		4
1,194	1,570	1,586	2,095	884	39,720	139,092	3,840	1872	176,280	5
1,277	1,098	981	1,838	630	43,316	131,706	808	1873		6
1,385	2,870	457	223	382	77,634	156,758	25	1872	196,014	7
1,486	2,406	469	263	295	80,314	152,046	80	1873		8
1,364	1,419	759	323	61	95,388	178,801	390	1872	191,313	9
1,499	1,256	791	172	41	100,108	176,888	935	1873		10
1,780	1,456	518	666	130	56,022	138,531	189	1872	92,886	11
1,891	1,173	580	475	12	55,905	131,679	250	1873		12
1,148	1,692	682	218	11	52,681	141,712	741	1872	123,824	13
1,365	1,370	690	180	3	55,417	135,601	667	1873		14
1,523	1,341	849	169	3	21,005	97,947	331	1872	122,823	15
1,690	1,093	982	112	3	21,564	91,947	403	1873		16
13,633	18,782	7,199	7,134	2,298	519,063	1,319,669	6,899	1872	Total of Munster.	17
14,839	11,166	6,929	5,878	1,593	539,568	1,266,883	3,856	1873		18
In- crease, 1,176	De- crease, 2,616	De- crease, 270	De- crease, 1,256	De- crease, 700	In- crease, 20,525	De- crease, 52,786	De- crease, 3,043	Increase or Decrease in Munster in 1873.		
1,277	1,358	1,106	4,745	128	62,296	224,254	343	1872	248,257	1
1,492	1,069	1,301	4,160	103	67,406	221,253	312	1873		2
206	1,788	246	110	530	42,484	84,001	327	1872	95,324	3
258	1,363	298	76	461	43,655	83,279	22	1873		4
162	2,249	703	1,071	1,301	34,227	200,908	106	1872	245,855	5
254	1,824	871	877	1,133	33,845	189,444	252	1873		6
336	948	382	1,556	206	51,294	135,594	124	1872	141,248	7
396	693	450	1,284	274	57,454	134,443	93	1873		8
91	1,437	303	304	642	25,333	94,940	147	1872	115,311	9
124	1,102	304	177	505	27,933	92,601	91	1873		10
2,072	7,780	2,734	7,786	2,897	215,634	739,697	1,047	1872	Total of Connaught, 845,993	11
2,526	5,851	3,224	6,574	2,476	230,295	721,020	770	1873		12
In- crease, 454	De- crease, 1,929	In- crease, 490	De- crease, 1,212	De- crease, 421	In- crease, 14,661	De- crease, 18,677	De- crease, 277	Increase or Decrease in Connaught in 1873.		

[continued on page 14.]

## GENERAL ABSTRACTS, for each County and Province, showing in Statute

Number.	PROVINCES AND COUNTIES, WITH THEIR ACRES (including water) IN STATUTE ACRES.	EXTENT OF LAND UNDER						
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Bere and Rye.	Beans and Pease.	Potatoes.	Tumpe.
	ULSTER:	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.	Acre.
1	Antrim, . . . { 1872, 761,803 acres, { 1873,	8,672	86,561	1,018	83	3,233	51,186	11,037
		5,788	81,626	987	41	3,363	48,811	10,690
2	Armagh, . . . { 1872, 328,076 acres, { 1873,	10,599	68,487	310	69	254	32,799	7,926
		6,560	64,425	336	49	374	30,108	6,826
3	Cavan, . . . { 1872, 477,360 acres, { 1873,	407	55,200	7	32	24	33,079	3,085
		481	49,827	19	51	8	29,045	3,431
4	Donegal, . . . { 1872, 1,193,443 acres, { 1873,	2,086	98,198	2,755	620	511	50,807	17,418
		1,502	96,330	2,703	564	488	48,318	17,133
5	Down, . . . { 1872, 612,495 acres, { 1873,	34,024	122,836	1,031	308	1,031	59,627	19,202
		24,793	118,359	1,132	120	1,310	53,259	21,113
6	Fermanagh, . . . { 1872, 457,287 acres, { 1873,	633	27,496	56	131	38	18,517	3,597
		751	25,374	27	160	44	17,084	3,359
7	Londonderry, . . . { 1872, 523,350 acres, { 1873,	3,587	81,516	1,212	735	565	30,792	14,641
		2,681	78,287	1,395	680	840	35,370	15,062
8	Monaghan, . . . { 1872, 319,757 acres, { 1873,	2,253	64,466	2,223	148	61	25,810	8,713
		1,705	61,848	2,552	140	104	24,290	8,839
9	Tyrone, . . . { 1872, 806,296 acres, { 1873,	4,265	123,194	107	129	102	48,387	17,081
		2,953	116,391	61	113	117	45,686	17,329
	Total of Ulster, { 1872, 5,478,867 acres, { 1873,	66,536	727,454	8,719	2,255	5,819	356,004	103,382
		47,194	692,467	9,212	1,927	6,648	331,971	105,532
	Increase or Decrease in Ulster in 1873, . . . {	De- crease, 19,342	De- crease, 34,987	In- crease, 493	De- crease, 328	In- crease, 820	De- crease, 24,033	In- crease, 2,260
	Total of IRELAND, { 1872, 20,816,111 acres, { 1873,	225,294	1,624,711	219,013	9,975	11,821	991,571	346,711
		168,435	1,510,089	230,188	9,240	12,572	903,222	347,004
	Increase or Decrease in IRELAND in 1873, . . . {	De- crease, 56,859	De- crease, 114,622	In- crease, 11,175	De- crease, 735	In- crease, 1,651	De- crease, 88,560	In- crease, 1,183

Acres, the extent of Land under Crops in 1872 and 1873—continued.

CROPS, IN STATUTE ACRES.								Fallow or Un- cropped Arable Land.	Years.	Population in 1871.	Number.
Mangel Wurzel and Beet Root.	Cabbage.	Carrots, Parsnips, and other Green Crops.	Wethest and Rape.	Flax.	Meadow and Clover.	Total Extent under Crops.					
Land.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	1872	Ulster:	
399	452	1,168	1,285	10,065	80,067	255,926	1,241	1872		403,630	1
538	140	1,207	1,118	11,732	79,105	245,926	680	1873			
107	247	1,271	1,625	7,530	41,164	172,550	372	1872		179,221	2
301	116	1,589	863	9,694	41,777	164,818	246	1873			
355	1,587	621	260	6,098	55,314	155,069	405	1872		140,555	3
456	970	727	194	7,229	58,801	151,239	65	1873			
344	1,794	910	938	16,648	48,239	241,208	563	1872		217,902	4
480	1,002	983	919	14,495	47,933	232,800	818	1873			
698	496	2,117	2,791	20,451	68,810	332,922	192	1872		293,927	5
1,021	269	1,772	1,444	27,124	67,535	319,360	312	1873			
587	704	717	102	3,896	49,631	106,105	480	1872		92,688	6
721	401	656	151	3,443	51,360	103,530	174	1873			
343	758	1,100	761	19,113	85,277	196,400	450	1872		173,932	7
415	318	815	784	18,900	86,709	192,236	587	1873			
470	647	749	429	11,804	29,705	147,278	87	1872		112,785	8
537	283	773	445	11,557	31,301	144,894	73	1873			
433	1,281	1,742	636	19,368	49,931	267,266	273	1872		215,668	9
388	381	1,363	465	19,260	52,497	257,234	178	1873			
3,826	7,956	10,395	8,827	114,773	456,138	1,874,084	4,063	1872		Total of Ulster, 1,830,396	
4,857	3,680	10,094	6,383	123,454	467,016	1,810,737	3,133	1873			
In- crease, 1,031	Decrease, 4,076	Decrease, 301	Decrease, 2,444	In- crease, 8,681	In- crease, 8,880	Decrease, 63,347	Decrease, 930	Increase or Decrease in Ulster in 1873.			
34,892	39,452	31,196	30,172	121,992	1,800,273	5,487,313	18,404	1872		Total of Ireland, 5,402,759	
38,182	28,063	31,614	23,375	120,482	1,837,483	5,270,159	13,474	1873			
In- crease, 3,350	Decrease, 11,389	In- crease, 418	Decrease, 6,797	In- crease, 7,440	In- crease, 37,210	Decrease, 217,154	Decrease, 4,930	Increase or Decrease in Ireland in 1873.			

## GENERAL ABSTRACTS, for each County and Province

Number.	PROVINCES AND COUNTIES, WITH THEIR STATUTE ACRES ARABLE (including under) IN	HORSES, with the purposes for which it was stated they are kept, or intended by the Owners.						CATTLE		
		Two years old and upwards.			One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Milk Cows.	Other	
		Agricultural.	Traffic and Manufactures.	Amusement or Recreation.					Two years old and up- wards.	One year old and under two years.
LEINSTER :										
1	Carlow, . . . { 1872, 221,342 acres, { 1873,	5,407	105	519	797	644	7,532	13,988	10,027	10,412
		5,170	234	494	745	781	7,424	14,526	10,006	11,333
2	Dublin, . . . { 1872, 226,414 acres, { 1873,	5,870	9,791	4,028	603	400	20,843	14,766	22,771	7,655
		6,139	9,564	3,739	756	601	20,799	15,380	22,985	9,061
3	Kildare, . . . { 1872, 418,436 acres, { 1873,	8,085	549	1,655	1,702	1,126	18,117	13,739	39,890	15,953
		7,866	461	1,534	1,907	1,174	12,942	14,168	42,153	17,755
4	Kilkenny, . . . { 1872, 509,732 acres, { 1873,	11,958	558	740	1,641	1,635	16,532	41,125	18,250	23,056
		11,546	452	735	1,705	1,599	16,037	41,888	19,038	27,341
5	King's, . . . { 1872, 493,085 acres, { 1873,	8,856	348	507	1,653	1,443	12,897	15,632	23,329	14,912
		8,593	426	509	1,681	1,389	12,688	16,149	26,472	16,579
6	Longford, . . . { 1872, 269,409 acres, { 1873,	4,101	196	231	841	853	6,322	19,690	10,726	14,011
		3,928	181	243	899	850	6,101	18,907	10,777	14,100
7	Louth, . . . { 1872, 201,722 acres, { 1873,	7,479	536	618	1,098	1,030	10,811	9,333	11,540	8,848
		7,435	519	595	1,133	1,121	10,853	9,661	11,032	9,585
8	Meath, . . . { 1872, 580,083 acres, { 1873,	9,389	440	1,985	2,307	1,645	15,775	16,351	101,447	29,407
		9,081	576	1,824	2,172	1,746	15,399	16,836	100,132	33,997
9	Queen's, . . . { 1872, 424,854 acres, { 1873,	8,848	339	809	1,585	1,203	12,874	22,372	23,122	16,343
		8,950	268	810	1,378	1,348	12,754	22,029	22,887	17,742
10	Westmeath, . . . { 1872, 453,468 acres, { 1873,	8,904	361	931	1,658	1,404	11,318	16,499	39,546	21,953
		7,020	275	804	1,690	1,510	11,299	16,303	41,795	23,161
11	Wexford, . . . { 1872, 570,598 acres, { 1873,	19,657	553	1,064	2,603	2,263	26,140	39,831	16,865	21,065
		19,171	440	1,069	2,468	2,297	25,445	40,725	17,130	20,306
12	Wicklow, . . . { 1872, 300,178 acres, { 1873,	7,543	571	833	1,433	957	11,837	26,585	17,106	14,716
		7,551	500	873	1,325	1,036	11,285	27,742	17,670	16,440
Total of LEINSTER, { 1872, 4,876,211 acres,		104,163	14,466	14,085	17,901	14,713	165,418	240,926	334,419	181,254
		102,450	13,945	12,819	17,859	15,482	163,026	254,314	343,097	223,613
Increase or Decrease in LEINSTER in 1873, {		Decrease, 1,713	Decrease, 520	Decrease, 776	Decrease, 122	In- crease, 739	Decrease, 2,392	In- crease, 4,394	In- crease, 9,178	In- crease, 24,159

*of the number of Live Stock in 1872 and 1873.*

Cattle.	Total Number of Cattle.	Sheep.				Pigs.				Population in 1871.	Number.
		One year old and upwards.		Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.	Years.		
Under one year.	Ewes.	Tups and Wethers.									
11,297	45,724	24,299	15,054	22,975	62,928	3,643	23,100	26,743	1872	51,472	1
11,777	48,542	28,631	16,801	27,472	72,904	3,602	18,408	21,011	1873		
6,427	51,619	30,802	20,133	23,294	74,289	3,496	24,116	27,612	1872	403,625	2
7,130	54,536	36,235	22,739	29,249	88,223	2,780	17,013	19,793	1873		
10,791	80,363	36,867	30,646	48,908	142,421	2,485	14,618	17,103	1872	84,198	3
11,496	85,503	40,052	45,054	57,148	106,854	1,827	11,623	13,450	1873		
29,100	112,434	44,596	23,521	40,998	109,115	7,144	50,469	57,613	1872	109,302	4
31,834	120,091	49,586	26,203	48,085	123,874	5,845	36,610	42,455	1873		
9,225	63,097	49,866	32,930	49,076	131,872	3,360	21,313	24,673	1872	75,781	5
10,525	69,725	51,595	38,895	53,062	143,352	2,517	16,322	18,639	1873		
14,951	59,387	13,296	6,234	12,587	32,117	2,432	17,365	19,797	1872	64,406	6
14,261	58,045	13,316	8,020	13,142	34,476	1,805	12,190	13,995	1873		
6,269	35,909	20,454	3,886	23,377	53,717	1,655	14,370	16,025	1872	79,422	7
5,361	37,419	27,609	5,622	23,987	37,168	1,354	11,363	12,737	1873		
13,940	161,145	88,406	52,543	79,828	220,777	2,298	15,914	18,212	1872	99,256	8
14,961	163,836	92,620	62,727	87,743	243,090	2,144	12,043	14,187	1873		
13,504	75,361	39,652	23,034	38,102	100,878	3,512	26,667	30,179	1872	77,071	9
14,168	76,826	42,907	25,425	39,320	107,852	3,041	20,772	23,813	1873		
15,791	93,789	49,422	46,484	55,961	151,807	1,758	18,613	20,371	1872	78,416	10
15,003	97,102	54,118	50,156	59,431	103,705	1,228	14,059	15,287	1873		
28,167	105,728	55,692	27,858	52,305	135,855	10,341	66,779	77,120	1872	132,506	11
31,082	115,355	63,789	32,613	63,145	159,547	8,126	52,732	60,858	1873		
16,164	74,373	75,250	62,753	60,361	198,364	3,864	22,372	26,236	1872	78,509	12
18,309	80,221	78,851	64,935	64,592	208,578	3,069	18,610	21,679	1873		
175,020	969,219	554,683	351,676	507,862	1,414,209	45,983	315,006	361,684	1872	Total of 1,323,966	
188,067	1,009,371	605,309	389,790	506,326	1,560,425	36,538	241,766	270,104	1873		
Increase, 12,421	Increase, 50,152	Increase, 48,647	Increase, 48,114	Increase, 58,464	Increase, 155,225	Decrease, 9,650	Decrease, 73,930	Decrease, 83,580	Increase or Decrease in LEINSTER in 1873.		

[continued on page 18.]

## GENERAL ABSTRACTS, for each County and Province,

Number	PROVINCES AND COUNTIES, WITH THEIR AREAS (including water) IN STATUTE ACRES.	HORSES, with the purposes for which it was stated they are kept, or intended by the Owner.						CATTLE.		
		Two years old and upwards.			One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Milch Cows.	Other	
		Agricultural.	Trade and Manufactures.	Amusement or Recreation.					Two years old and up- wards.	One year old and under two years.
<b>MUNSTER:</b>										
1	Clare, . . . { 1872, 827,994 acres, { 1873,	11,050	369	670	1,600	1,670	15,368	58,571	31,393	36,584
		10,858	411	641	1,890	1,703	15,503	58,566	33,626	41,396
2	Cork, E.R., . . { 1872, 1,940,284 acres, { 1873,	22,837	1,920	2,425	3,768	3,321	34,471	99,109	20,113	26,982
		21,807	2,066	2,344	3,719	3,430	33,395	99,269	20,361	35,402
3	Cork, W.R., . . { 1872, 809,399 acres, { 1873,	15,077	339	661	1,493	1,975	19,550	89,552	13,386	21,507
		14,589	387	644	1,580	2,118	19,318	81,636	12,375	25,268
4	Kerry, . . . { 1872, 1,185,917 acres, { 1873,	11,376	681	535	1,240	1,687	15,409	118,235	25,160	39,855
		11,399	405	430	1,409	1,811	15,454	118,326	23,455	32,081
5	Limerick, . . . { 1872, 681,112 acres, { 1873,	10,718	900	1,154	1,311	1,157	15,240	100,415	21,305	23,088
		10,999	716	1,190	1,348	1,139	15,292	100,596	20,373	24,957
6	Tipperary, N.R. { 1872, 524,920 acres, { 1873,	8,840	326	785	1,482	1,206	12,609	32,433	23,841	29,109
		8,834	225	737	1,548	1,419	12,761	32,443	25,552	24,569
7	Tipperary, S.R. { 1872, 536,811 acres, { 1873,	9,024	481	1,140	1,509	1,086	13,840	53,535	20,513	20,912
		9,259	493	1,031	1,506	1,190	13,479	54,329	20,036	23,382
8	Waterford, . . . { 1872, 461,553 acres, { 1873,	8,947	601	773	1,283	1,068	12,671	43,111	10,519	13,010
		8,678	710	779	1,359	1,164	12,690	44,220	9,728	16,155
Total of Munster, 6,067,990, . . . { 1872, acres, { 1873,		98,469	5,597	8,142	13,700	13,430	130,393	585,961	166,070	197,447
		96,423	5,433	7,795	14,257	13,983	137,003	584,335	166,267	227,900
Increase or Decrease in Munster in 1873, . . . {		Decrease, 2,046	Decrease, 164	Decrease, 346	In- crease, 557	In- crease, 553	Decrease, 1,446	Decrease, 1,576	In- crease, 137	In- crease, 30,458
<b>CONNAUGHT:</b>										
1	Galway, . . . { 1872, 1,566,354 acres, { 1873,	16,562	941	1,282	3,167	3,091	25,643	43,232	60,339	35,740
		16,519	801	1,247	3,132	3,515	25,214	42,343	64,798	35,898
2	Leitrim, . . . { 1872, 392,363 acres, { 1873,	2,326	356	224	391	335	3,632	44,168	12,887	19,745
		2,307	277	192	448	317	3,541	41,055	13,774	17,474
3	Mayo, . . . { 1872, 1,363,882 acres, { 1873,	13,414	481	581	1,755	2,041	18,872	60,626	50,737	35,841
		12,751	621	574	1,545	2,381	17,872	56,621	54,094	32,824
4	Roscommon, . . . { 1872, 807,691 acres, { 1873,	4,722	361	728	1,301	948	8,080	32,384	27,028	25,635
		4,898	333	849	1,191	1,065	8,138	30,579	27,091	24,618
5	Sligo, . . . { 1872, 461,753 acres, { 1873,	5,233	240	401	893	815	7,582	37,186	18,692	21,022
		4,912	398	388	877	727	7,292	34,990	19,156	19,567
Total of Connacht, 4,392,043, . . . { 1872, acres, { 1873,		42,257	2,379	3,216	7,807	8,450	63,980	217,595	170,703	130,003
		41,387	2,430	3,050	7,183	8,005	62,655	216,597	170,913	130,201
Increase or Decrease in Connacht in 1873, . . . {		Decrease, 870	In- crease, 41	Decrease, 166	Decrease, 314	Decrease, 445	Decrease, 1,754	Decrease, 11,999	In- crease, 8,210	Decrease, 7,622

of the number of Live Stock in 1872 and 1873—continued.

Cattle.		Sheep.				Pigs.				Population in 1871.	
		One year old and upwards.		Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	One year old and upwards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.	Years.		
Under one year.	Total Number of Cattle.	Ewes,	Tups and Weaners.						Number	Number	
42,151	168,639	63,216	32,713	63,132	161,061	7,798	88,157	45,955	1872	MUNSTER:	147,994
43,210	178,728	60,387	37,020	65,129	171,536	6,278	27,344	83,622	1873		
59,888	197,093	89,355	20,317	83,949	193,621	9,490	86,714	100,204	1872	S. MUNSTER:	339,766
59,717	215,309	96,810	26,135	91,786	216,731	15,578	70,129	85,707	1873		
35,441	151,286	67,941	12,303	51,418	130,962	12,193	50,393	62,588	1872	176,280	3
37,301	158,363	63,396	11,907	50,349	125,742	8,675	42,142	50,817	1873		
48,595	222,845	90,470	19,336	38,243	118,048	11,911	50,210	62,121	1872	196,014	4
49,324	219,037	58,189	16,937	35,868	110,994	9,461	41,271	50,732	1873		
55,583	201,981	27,097	18,355	24,539	69,994	11,006	55,306	66,312	1872	191,313	5
61,963	210,989	30,936	19,946	27,427	78,309	8,653	43,320	51,973	1873		
21,419	99,802	54,952	26,217	54,387	135,556	4,779	35,114	89,893	1872	92,888	6
23,394	105,868	59,974	35,283	61,063	156,320	3,911	27,844	81,755	1873		
31,196	129,156	51,712	25,778	49,485	126,975	7,580	49,445	57,325	1872	123,324	7
39,188	138,815	57,070	30,939	55,345	143,354	5,979	34,611	40,590	1873		
20,615	87,258	22,748	6,765	21,252	50,763	8,609	48,768	57,377	1872	122,825	8
26,329	98,401	25,452	7,658	22,702	55,812	6,596	37,420	44,018	1873		
347,802	1,257,370	438,709	101,707	306,404	965,900	83,606	417,107	500,773	1872	Total of Munster, 1,390,402.	
343,828	1,321,820	463,214	105,915	409,609	1,058,798	88,131	824,061	889,312	1873		
Increase, 55,430	Increase, 64,450	Increase, 24,425	Increase, 24,128	Increase, 23,265	Increase, 71,818	Increase, 18,535	Increase, 93,026	Increase, 111,561		Increase or Decrease in Munster in 1873.	
22,377	161,708	250,932	227,762	206,371	685,065	9,887	52,568	52,455	1872	CONNAUGHT:	248,257
22,326	165,364	264,949	236,058	211,257	712,864	7,664	43,157	50,821	1873		
28,411	105,211	9,701	8,027	9,207	21,935	3,783	21,941	25,724	1872	95,324	9
25,404	97,707	9,107	2,904	8,322	20,393	2,278	15,151	17,429	1873		
31,987	179,191	141,236	75,176	120,669	340,081	7,238	44,530	51,758	1872	245,855	10
27,394	170,933	133,415	72,414	107,937	313,766	5,745	35,670	41,415	1873		
22,278	107,345	69,879	63,100	65,103	198,062	3,814	28,566	32,380	1872	141,246	11
20,960	103,368	74,287	68,312	64,880	207,388	2,070	21,597	24,567	1873		
24,209	102,109	26,460	12,751	25,238	64,449	2,545	17,885	20,430	1872	115,311	12
22,386	96,708	27,324	13,940	25,382	68,646	1,801	13,523	15,413	1873		
129,362	655,564	428,208	384,816	426,588	1,389,613	27,957	165,400	192,747	1872	Total of Connaught, 845,993.	
119,089	633,980	500,002	394,188	417,707	1,321,067	20,548	128,007	143,645	1873		
Decrease, 10,173	Decrease, 21,584	Increase, 10,874	Increase, 9,372	Decrease, 8,801	Increase, 11,445	Decrease, 6,719	Decrease, 36,383	Decrease, 43,102		Increase or Decrease in Connaught in 1873.	

[continued on page 20.]

## GENERAL ABSTRACTS, for each County and Province,

Number.	PROVINCES AND COUNTIES, WITH THEIR AREAS (including water) IN STATUTORY ACRES.	Horses, with the purposes for which it was stated they are kept, or intended by the Owner.						CATTLE.		
		Two years old and upwards.			One year old and under two years.	Under one year.	Total Number of Horses.	Milch Cows.	Other	
		Agricultural.	Traffic and Manufacture.	Amusement or Pleasure.					Two years old and up- wards.	One year old and under two years.
ULSTER:										
1	Antrim, . . . { 1872, 761,803 acres, { 1873,	21,641	9,830	1,269	1,546	2,002	29,348	67,867	22,028	35,396
		21,363	2,928	1,199	1,863	1,953	29,306	65,715	21,845	34,767
2	Armagh, . . . { 1872, 338,076 acres, { 1873,	10,802	553	427	340	640	12,562	34,352	8,651	17,972
		10,078	450	434	442	544	11,948	33,612	8,831	18,868
3	Cavan, . . . { 1872, 477,360 acres, { 1873,	7,310	479	429	857	1,184	10,305	52,373	13,853	20,406
		7,051	380	476	939	1,178	10,024	50,178	15,082	22,763
4	Donegal, . . . { 1872, 1,193,443 acres, { 1873,	20,770	402	382	1,140	1,750	24,444	75,354	34,776	39,586
		20,108	471	335	1,272	1,510	23,696	72,249	35,159	38,257
5	Down, . . . { 1872, 612,495 acres, { 1873,	20,184	1,236	1,178	1,532	2,129	32,250	58,364	14,101	31,704
		25,869	1,284	1,042	1,697	2,136	32,048	58,364	16,030	31,379
6	Fermanagh, . . . { 1872, 457,297 acres, { 1873,	5,028	158	338	376	488	6,928	47,517	14,987	15,313
		5,370	129	302	397	486	6,684	44,704	14,553	14,584
7	Londonderry, . . . { 1872, 522,350 acres, { 1873,	17,631	496	531	1,175	1,798	21,821	47,032	14,621	23,420
		17,602	412	449	1,249	1,704	21,416	46,274	14,771	23,392
8	Monaghan, . . . { 1872, 319,757 acres, { 1873,	8,598	264	296	464	617	10,220	35,198	7,537	15,588
		8,465	169	347	541	778	10,299	34,935	9,069	19,196
9	Tyrone, . . . { 1872, 606,296 acres, { 1873,	20,918	519	559	1,006	1,491	24,493	80,250	18,176	33,667
		20,019	688	533	1,080	1,421	23,750	76,214	18,123	33,425
Total of Ulster, 5,478,867, { 1872, acres,		139,478	6,857	5,469	8,436	12,149	172,498	498,307	148,730	238,174
		135,947	6,916	5,117	9,489	11,710	160,173	482,205	154,633	240,571
Increase or Decrease in Ulster in 1873, {		Decrease, 3,531	Decrease, 27	Decrease, 292	In- crease, 1,053	Decrease, 439	Decrease, 3,236	Decrease, 16,102	In- crease, 5,693	In- crease, 7,567
TOTAL OF IRELAND, 20,915,111 { 1872, acres,		384,867	20,379	20,862	47,024	48,742	640,974	1,551,784	819,922	767,878
		376,397	20,709	20,332	48,798	49,150	632,146	1,526,501	848,140	821,285
Increase or Decrease in IRELAND in 1873, {		Decrease, 9,160	Decrease, 670	Decrease, 1,580	In- crease, 1,174	In- crease, 408	Decrease, 8,928	Decrease, 25,283	In- crease, 28,218	In- crease, 54,387

of the number of Live Stock in 1872 and 1873—continued.

		Sheep.				Pigs.			Population in 1871.	Number.
Count.	Total Number of Count.	One year old and upwards.		Under one year.	Total Number of Sheep.	One year old and up- wards.	Under one year.	Total Number of Pigs.		
Under one year.	Ewes.	Tups and Wethers.								
Ulster:										
41,285	166,556	43,273	11,139	39,973	94,285	6,572	47,561	54,133	1872	403,630
40,880	163,207	41,462	14,993	40,323	96,778	4,725	37,209	41,934	1873	
20,428	81,403	6,248	1,319	6,617	14,184	3,782	21,212	24,094	1872	179,221
21,142	84,453	7,709	1,440	6,783	15,932	2,554	13,662	16,216	1873	
35,866	122,590	11,432	2,327	12,080	25,839	7,541	35,680	43,221	1872	140,555
33,748	123,011	12,737	2,082	12,405	28,124	6,013	25,459	31,472	1873	
42,044	191,760	97,412	41,966	70,018	209,416	4,252	81,247	85,490	1872	217,902
38,298	180,958	89,712	33,710	58,952	182,374	3,072	17,817	20,889	1873	
37,664	141,833	31,969	11,238	20,435	72,042	5,980	45,780	51,769	1872	293,927
39,132	146,895	32,063	9,776	31,718	74,157	4,014	28,793	32,807	1873	
30,949	108,766	7,264	1,907	7,502	16,733	2,542	20,107	22,739	1872	92,688
29,138	102,979	6,078	2,069	6,955	10,002	1,746	13,894	15,640	1873	
28,001	113,074	20,023	5,077	10,468	45,468	4,450	28,146	32,596	1872	173,932
28,188	112,626	22,139	5,328	18,663	46,330	3,754	17,966	21,720	1873	
25,010	81,333	7,750	1,627	8,387	17,064	3,158	22,850	26,008	1872	112,785
23,132	85,962	8,309	1,550	9,231	19,090	2,825	17,031	18,636	1873	
47,906	179,929	24,552	9,298	22,081	55,931	5,913	36,585	42,408	1872	215,668
46,377	174,130	23,644	9,529	20,813	53,986	3,482	21,467	24,849	1873	
307,933	1,157,244	250,823	85,918	215,721	559,462	64,500	289,217	353,267	1873	Total of Ulster, 1,630,398
300,000	1,177,329	245,333	81,577	205,843	532,773	31,968	183,298	225,388	1873	
Decrease, 7,003	Decrease, 10,015	Decrease, 5,470	Decrease, 4,341	Decrease, 9,878	Decrease, 19,689	Decrease, 12,105	Decrease, 95,979	Decrease, 106,084	Increase or Decrease in Ulster in 1873.	
918,813	4,058,397	0,742,663	864,197	1,836,673	4,263,254	201,011	1,167,560	1,588,871	1872	Total of Ireland, 5,402,759
930,694	4,142,409	1,520,850	1,061,470	1,589,625	4,402,653	184,962	868,342	1,042,244	1873	
Increase, 30,681	Increase, 83,003	Increase, 78,476	Increase, 77,273	Increase, 63,030	Increase, 218,799	Decrease, 47,009	Decrease, 239,818	346,927	Increase or Decrease in Ireland in 1873.	

Number of Irish Emigrants from each Province during the first SEVEN Months of 1872 and 1873, and the Increase or Decrease in the latter Year, compiled from Returns obtained by the Constabulary, who acted as Enumerators at the several Irish Ports.

Months.	PROVINCES.											
	LEINSTER.				MUNSTER.				ULSTER.			
	1872. Persons.	1873. Persons.	In- crease.	De- crease.	1872. Persons.	1873. Persons.	In- crease.	De- crease.	1872. Persons.	1873. Persons.	In- crease.	De- crease.
January, .	391	300	-	91	434	339	-	95	1,447	1,477	30	-
February, .	553	452	-	101	464	462	-	2	1,460	1,313	-	153
March, .	1,415	1,610	195	-	1,345	1,626	281	-	2,497	3,077	580	-
April, .	4,645	3,775	-	870	3,759	3,102	1,343	-	5,450	5,790	340	-
May, .	3,268	4,065	797	-	2,602	5,172	2,570	-	5,619	5,809	280	-
June, .	2,125	1,824	-	301	1,412	2,604	1,192	-	3,636	3,212	-	444
July, .	1,255	1,384	129	-	1,025	1,583	558	-	2,576	2,593	22	-
Total, .	13,652	18,410	-	242	11,041	16,988	5,947	-	22,711	23,366	655	-
Months.	CONNAUGHT.				FROM WHAT PROVINCE NOT STATED.				IRELAND.			
	1872.	1873.	In- crease.	De- crease.	1872.	1873.	In- crease.	De- crease.	1872.	1873.	In- crease.	De- crease.
	164	152	-	12	-	1	1	-	2,436	2,269	-	167
January, .	292	329	37	-	7	4	-	3	2,782	2,560	-	222
February, .	1,041	1,578	537	-	4	6	2	-	6,302	7,897	1,595	-
March, .	2,984	4,599	1,615	-	36	-	-	36	16,874	19,266	2,392	-
April, .	1,590	3,693	2,103	-	1	27	26	-	13,080	18,856	5,776	-
May, .	915	1,622	707	-	-	30	30	-	8,108	9,292	1,184	-
June, .	533	805	272	-	24	11	-	13	5,413	6,381	968	-
Total, .	7,519	12,778	5,259	-	72	79	7	-	54,095	66,521	11,526	-

The entire number of emigrants (Irish) from Ireland, since May, 1851—the period when the Enumeration commenced—to the 31st July last, was 2,229,117; of whom 1,190,673 were males, and 1,038,444 were females.

## APPENDIX.

### EXTIRPATION OF WEEDS.

THE following extracts from the writings of the celebrated Sir John Sinclair and other distinguished individuals, and also copies of correspondence with public bodies and many eminent persons, with regard to the great importance of eradicating weeds, which were published in the General Abstracts of Tillage and Live Stock submitted by me to the Lord Lieutenant [the late Earl of Carlisle, K.C.], for the years 1856 and 1857, are now reprinted, in the hope that they may prove useful to all those engaged in the cultivation of land, by directing more earnest attention to the subject, and inducing a general determination to extirpate weeds from not only the tillage and grass lands, but also from the highways, sides of railways, canals, and waste lands of Ireland :—

#### MEASURES TAKEN TO EFFECT THE DESTRUCTION OF WEEDS.

Your Excellency is aware that in connexion with the Agricultural Statistics, I have, for the last four years, had returns made to me by the Constabulary, showing the extent to which weeds are permitted to grow, and, in most cases, *to shed their seeds*, on the sides of highways, railways, and canals, as well as on the various farms of the country. On this subject I have the honour to give, in the Appendix, copies of two letters addressed by me to their Lordships, Her Majesty's Judges of Assize, also of circulars to the County Surveyors, and to the directors of every railway and canal in Ireland; and I beg to take this opportunity of acquainting your Excellency how deeply sensible I am of the kind and considerate manner in which my request to the Judges to bring the subject before the various Grand Juries was received and acted upon by their Lordships, not only on the last Spring circuit, but more particularly during that lately concluded; and I am informed, by communications from almost every county, that the several Grand Juries have given directions to the County Surveyors to take all necessary steps to prevent the great injury to the farming classes which has hitherto arisen from the growth of weeds along the sides of public roads. I would here take the liberty of remarking that your Excellency's observations at the meeting of the Royal Dublin Society last April, and also at the late cattle show of the Royal Agricultural Society, at Athlone, as to the lamentable prevalence of weeds in Ireland, have had the happiest effect. In answer to the circular which I took the liberty of addressing to the directors of railways and canals, I have to acknowledge the receipt, in several instances, of very courteous replies; copies of these I have felt it to be my duty to forward for insertion in the public papers, feeling that the assistance of the Press, which has hitherto

been most liberally afforded to me on all occasions, is of the greatest importance, by making generally known the great injury and loss which arise from the unchecked growth of weeds on the farms and along the highways of the country. Every observer, and even the general traveller, must be struck with the neglect on this important matter, which, with few exceptions, exists in almost every part of Ireland.

I beg to mention that, having brought this subject before the Commissioners of National Education,\* and suggested to them the many advantages that must arise by instructing their teachers to direct the attention of the children in the numerous schools under their control to the importance of destroying weeds when found growing on their parents' farms, I have received a reply\* promising every assistance in the matter, and have furnished to Mr. Macdonnell, the Resident Commissioner, 1,000 copies of my circular to County Surveyors, to be distributed by the teachers then in training, on their return home; and I have learned that 6,000 of these circulars have since been procured by the Commissioners, for circulation amongst their schools. The Committee of the Church Education Society have also promised their valuable assistance† with the pupils in their schools, and also the Poor Law Commissioners,‡ through the medium of the masters and teachers in workhouses, by instructing the children in attendance as to the advantages which must arise to the community by the practice of destroying weeds. The Governors of Erasmus Smith's Schools§ have also promised their friendly aid.

The Masters in Chancery,|| upon all of whom I waited personally, have unanimously taken the subject into their consideration, and, I am informed, purpose recommending that an order should be issued requiring receivers over the estates under the Court to use their influence with the tenantry to keep their farms free from weeds.

The Commissioners of Public Works, have also directed the removal of weeds from all works in progress under their control—such as those of arterial drainage, roads, &c.

Copies of my correspondence with Her Majesty's Judges, and with the several public bodies and other parties, upon the subject of the destruction of weeds, are given at pages 36 to 40; and I trust they will not be considered undeserving of attention.

The following extract from the works of that eminent man and real patriot, Sir John Sinclair, first President of 'The Board of Agriculture,' quoted in the 'Rural Cyclopædia,' will be read with interest, as exhibiting the immense loss† arising from the neglect of removing weeds from growing crops, and is highly valuable, as being the record of actual experiment:—

Sir John Sinclair on the destruction of Weeds.

"All plants which grow naturally among a crop that has been sown, "may be regarded as enemies to that crop. The destruction of such "plants, therefore, must be considered as one of the most important "branches of the agricultural art; for if that is neglected, or even but

\* See pages 39 and 40.

† See page 41.

‡ See page 42.

§ See an able article on this subject in the *Freeman's Journal* of the 27th of August, 1860.

† See pages 40 and 41.

|| See page 38.

¶ See page 39.

"slovenly performed, the crops may be reduced to the amount of one- Sir John  
 "fourth or one-third of a fair average crop, even upon the very best soils. Sinclair  
 "Besides, it merits consideration, that if weeds are suffered to exist, the  
 "full advantages of manuring land, and many other improvements, can  
 "only be partially obtained. Nor is this all: the mixture of weeds in  
 "the soil prevents the crops from receiving the beneficial influence of the  
 "atmosphere,—sucks up that moisture so essential for the growth of the  
 "crop sown,—tends more than any other circumstance to injure the crop  
 "when lodged by violent winds or heavy rains,—augments the risks at  
 "harvest (for a crop that is clean may be ready for the stack-yard in  
 "much less time than is required to harvest it when encumbered with  
 "weeds),—and the seeds of these intruders deteriorate the quality of the  
 "grain. Notwithstanding all the injuries thence sustained, how many  
 "are there who hardly ever attempt to remove weeds in an effectual  
 "manner! This negligence is the more to be blamed, because, were  
 "farmers at the trouble of collecting all sorts of weeds before they had  
 "formed their seeds, and of mixing them with rich earth, with lime, or  
 "fermenting them with dung, they would soon be reduced into a soft  
 "pulpy mass, and in this way a pernicious nuisance might be converted  
 "into a valuable manure. Various experiments have been tried, to ascer-  
 "tain the positive advantage derived from carefully weeding one part of  
 "a field, and leaving another part undone; among these, the following,  
 "made with peculiar accuracy, may be safely relied on:—

"1. Seven acres of light gravelly land were followed, and sown broad-  
 "cast with wheat; one acre was measured off, and not a weed was pulled  
 "out of it; the other six were carefully weeded. The unweeded acre pro-  
 "duced 18 bushels; the six weeded acres 135 bushels, or  $22\frac{1}{2}$  per acre,  
 "which is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  bushels, or  $\frac{1}{3}$  more produce in favour of weeding.—2. A  
 "six-acre field was sown with barley, in fine till, and well manured. The  
 "weeding, owing to a great abundance of charlock, cost 12s. per acre. The  
 "produce of an unweeded acre was only 13 bushels; of the weeded, 28.  
 "Difference in favour of weeding, 15 bushels per acre, besides the land being  
 "so much cleaner for succeeding crops.—3. Six acres sown with oats, one  
 "acre ploughed but once, and unmanured, produced only 17 bushels.  
 "Another six acres, ploughed three times, manured, and weeded, produced  
 "37 bushels. This experiment proves, that oats require good management,  
 "and will pay for it as well as other crops. Ten bushels of the increased  
 "produce may be fairly attributed to the weeding, and the other ten to the  
 "manure.

"The importance of weeding, both to the individual and to the pub-  
 "lic, is such, that it ought to be enforced by law. At any rate, a regula-  
 "tion of police, for fining those who harbour weeds, the seeds of which  
 "may be blown into their neighbours' ground, can have no injustice in  
 "principle. In England, the petty constable might be required, by pre-  
 "cept from the high constable, to give in presentments to the Quarter  
 "Sessions, containing a list of all persons who suffered weeds to run to  
 "seeds in their hedges or lands, such presentments to be particularly  
 "specified to the Court. Those referring to the coltsfoot, to be given in at  
 "the Lady-day sessions; and those referring to thistles, rag-weed, &c., to  
 "be given in at the Midsummer sessions. An order of Court might then  
 "be made for the immediate removal of such nuisances; and if not com-  
 "plied with, the offender should be fined a sum not exceeding five pounds,  
 "one-half to the informer, and the other half to go for the relief of the

Sir John  
Sinclair  
on the  
destruction  
of Weeds.

"poor. If, in consequence of such a system being enforced, from four to five bushels of wheat, fifteen bushels of barley, and ten bushels of oats additional were raised in all the fields in the kingdom, whose crops are injured by weeds, the benefit would be well worth the labour and expense, and the farmers would soon find that however anxious they may be to have their lands tithe-free, yet to have them weed-free is of still greater importance. On the whole, keeping his land in a clean state ought to be a principal object with every farmer; and if this be not carefully attended to, he may rest assured of paying dearly for his neglect. But the losses which he suffers do not remedy the injury which the public sustains from his slovenly conduct.

"In several countries the legislature has interposed its authority for the destruction of weeds. By a regulation in France, a farmer may sue his neighbour, who neglects to destroy the thistles upon his land at the proper seasons, or may employ people to do it at the other's expense. In Denmark, there is a law to oblige the farmers to root up the corn marigold, *Chrysanthemum segetum*. But the oldest regulation for that purpose was probably in Scotland; a statute of Alexander II., about the year 1220, having been directed against that weed, which was considered to be peculiarly pernicious to corn fields. The statute is very short, and ably expressed. *It denounces that man to be a traitor who poisons the king's lands with weeds, and introduces into them a host of enemies.*—Bondsmen who had this plant in their corn, were fined a sheep for each stalk. Under the authority of that law, Sir William Grierson, a Scottish baron, was accustomed to hold *Gavel* courts, for the express purpose of fining the farmers in whose growing crops three heads or upwards of that weed were found. Such a plan, if generally adopted, would soon extirpate weeds; and as by a clause introduced into many leases (and which ought to be universal), the landlord is empowered to cut down these weeds, at the expense of the tenant, if the latter neglect to do it himself, it is much to be regretted that so useful a regulation should not be generally enforced. The policy of some legislative provision for this purpose has been frequently suggested. A clause enforcing the extirpation of weeds in hedges along the sides of roads, passed the House of Commons, but was thrown out by the Lords. It is to be hoped that so useful a measure, even on a more extensive scale, will soon be passed into a law. By some it is recommended that the destruction of weeds on the sides of roads should be done at the parish expense; others, by the road-surveyors, and the expense to be stated in their accounts. \* \* \*

"Though it is impracticable to extirpate annual weeds altogether, either by summer fallow or turnip culture, yet the number of weeds may be so much lessened, by these means, as to prevent them from materially injuring corn crops. Two measures are necessary for that purpose,—first, to bring the seeds within the limits of vegetation; and secondly, to destroy every weed that vegetates, thus regularly lessening the original stock. As the seeds of annual weeds are naturally furnished with the means of preservation while stored in the ground, it is absolutely necessary to bring them into life before their destruction can be effected. This is accomplished by the operations of ploughing, harrowing, and rolling, by which the ground is pulverized and reduced, whilst the seeds are brought to the surface, or so near it as to allow their speedy vegetation. All the seeds within two or three inches of the surface, may be expected to vegetate according to circumstances, such as richness of soil, fineness of mould, and the degree of moisture which may prevail when the above processes are executed. When the first crops of

"weeds appear above the surface, a second ploughing should be given, by Sir John  
 "which that crop will instantly be destroyed, and a foundation laid for Sinclair  
 "producing another crop. Harrowing and rolling should again be resorted <sup>on the</sup> to ; and in this way, several crops may be annihilated, in warm and <sup>destruction</sup> moist seasons, before the turnips are drilled, more especially if attention  
 "has been paid to harrow and roll the land after every ploughing, so that  
 "sufficient moisture may be preserved to insure vegetation. When under  
 "turnips, both the hand and horse hoe should be constantly employed  
 "whenever weeds appear ; and upon no account should a single one  
 "be allowed to run to seed. *By paying due attention to these measures,*  
*many farms which formerly were a nest of seed-weeds, are now brought*  
*into such order that the weeds are kept under subjection and easily man-*  
*aged. In this way the destruction of many annual weeds may be accom-*  
*plished, before the turnip-seed is sown, and the seeds of almost every*  
*annual weed locked up in the ground, may be brought to the surface,*  
*and within the reach of vegetation. Besides, the several horse and hand*  
*hoeings given to the turnip crop, serve to destroy every annual weed as*  
*fast as it appears ; and if the seed-furrow given the corn crop which*  
*succeeds the turnips, is not taken deeper than the horse-hoeing furrow*  
*(and a greater depth is unnecessary), few weeds will appear in the corn*  
*crop which afterwards follows. As grass-seeds are always sown in the*  
*improved districts, with the corn crop that succeeds turnips, no annual*  
*weeds can appear in that season ; but it very often happens in the suc-*  
*ceeding year, from ploughing the clover-stubble a little deeper than the*  
*seed-furrow given to the crop which succeeded turnips, that a fresh*  
*growth of annual weeds make their appearance. To get the better of*  
*these enemies some experienced farmers have hand-weeded the crops*  
*which followed clover, at an expense not less than from ten to twenty*  
*shillings per acre, and evidently much to their advantage ; whilst others*  
*have resorted to the drill husbandry to get quit of annual weeds. The*  
*great object of both was, to procure clean crops, each being perfectly satis-*  
*fied that if their crops were full of weeds, the productive powers of the*  
*soil would not only be deteriorated, but that the amount or value of those*  
*crops would be also considerably lessened.*

"Owing to the nature of the soil and climate, many perennial weeds  
 "are much more abundant in Scotland, and also in Ireland, Wales, and  
 "the north and north-west of England, than in other countries, where the  
 "soil is drier, and the climate more temperate. \* \* \*

"With regard to docks and thistles, the method of getting rid of them  
 "is perfectly obvious ; all that is required being to fallow the ground well  
 "in the first instance, and to exterminate the plants afterwards whenever  
 "they appear. This may be accomplished by pulling them up by the root,  
 "in every corn field, when the weather is moist, and cutting them over in  
 "all the grass lands before they have perfected their seeds ; though cutting  
 "should only be resorted to when the weather is so dry as to prevent pulling  
 "these weeds out of the ground. The same attention ought to be paid to the  
 "destruction of nettles, ragweeds, mugwort, and the mountain daisy. Every  
 "one of these weeds ought to be pulled up by the root, if that measure can  
 "be accomplished ; but where that is impracticable, they ought to be regularly  
 "cut down by the scythe, in which way their increase will at least be pre-  
 "vented. This operation should always be performed before their seeds  
 "arrive at maturity, otherwise the ground may thence be stocked with fresh  
 "seed, to an extent not much less than if the cutting process had been  
 "neglected."

fecundity of Woods.

The injurious effects of weeds are scarcely to be wondered at, when their extraordinary and almost *incredible fecundity* is taken into consideration. The following table (with the exception of the Irish names, for which I am indebted to Dr. O'Donovan and Mr. Eugene Curry, M.R.L.A.) is taken from Professor Buckman, as quoted in the *Gardener's Chronicle and Agricultural Gazette* on the 12th of July, 1856:—

*"Seeding of Weeds.—One of the most fertile sources of the continuation of weeds is that of constantly allowing them to seed on the land. Now the enormous increase which may result from seeding may be gathered from the following table of observations made upon a few of our common species:—*

Botanical Name.	Irish Name.	Common Name.	No. of Flowers.	No. of Seeds each Flower may bear.	No. of Seeds on a single Plant.
Senecio vulgaris, .	Gruanag, .	Groundsel, .	130 ×	50 =	6,500
Stellaria media, .	Fliodh, .	Chickweed, .	50 "	10 "	500
Agrostemma githago, .	Cogul-urbhlair, .	Corn cockle, .	7 "	370 "	2,590
Lycchnis chioen, .	Ros-fiaidhain, .	Campion, .	25 "	137 "	3,425
Papaver rhoeas, .	Cailín dearg, .	Red poppy, .	100 "	500 "	50,000
Spinacia arvensis, .	Carraí bádla, .	Charlock, .	400 "	10 "	4,000
" nigra, .	Sgeaslaí dhubh, .	Black mustard, .	200 "	6 "	1,200
Gallium tricornis, .	Cobhlaench leapa, .	Corn bed-straw, .	100 "	2 "	200
" asparine, .	Laibh-an-aindhair, .	Clavers [Cleavers], .	550 "	2 "	1,100
Sonchus arvensis, .	Pothannan, .	Corn sow-thistle, .	100 "	190 "	19,000
Carduus nutans, .	Pothannan cumhra, .	Musk thistle, .	25 "	150 "	3,750
Ærthusa cynapium, .	Fionnáin, .	Fool's parsley, .	300 "	3 "	900
Eruvum tetraspermum, .	Rollidh, .	Tare, .	40 "	3 "	120
Daucus carota, .	Carrán Bláthdhain, .	Wild carrot, .	600 "	2 "	1,200
Pastinaca sativa, .	Méanamhliadhain, .	Wild parsnip, .	600 "	2 "	1,200

"Now, it is not likely that each individual plant would always perfect the quantities of seeds above tabulated; but the list gives a pretty accurate notion of the numbers of seeds which might be perfected under circumstances favourable to their development, and from it will at once be gathered the important practical fact that, allowing for the casualties to which seeds are constantly liable, yet enough would be left, where seeding is allowed but for a single year, to give trouble for many years after.

"It cannot be too earnestly urged THAT WEEDS BE DESTROYED BEFORE THEIR SEEDS ARE RIPE, OR INDEED NEARLY RIPE, as the ripening process is often completed by the juices in the stems, especially of pulled weeds: hence groundsel and thistles, when pulled and laid by, as we saw last year, yet ripened much seed; and their involucres, opening in the sun, were wafted on the breeze to an indefinite distance; and it should be recollect that one—the primary head—may ripen long before the rest, so that a tolerable weed-growth may follow from a delay which has allowed only this one head to perfect its seed. Each plant of groundsel might in this way be increased 50 fold, each plant of corn sow-thistle 190 fold, and a single head of musk-thistle may produce an increase of 150 fold."

And in the number of the same useful periodical for November 18, 1854, another list of weeds is given, from which the following are selected:—

Botanical Name.	Irish Name.	Common Name.	Number of Seeds, Vessels or Flowers to each Plant.	Number of Seeds to each Vegetable or Flower.	Number of Seeds to each Plant.	When gathered in 1854.
<i>Capella barba pastoris</i> ,	Sraldin,	Shepherd's purse,	150	30	4,500	Sept. 9
<i>Sisymbrium officinale</i> ,	Luss-an-air,	Common hedge mustard,	450	12	5,400	Oct. 13
<i>Hordeum sphondylium</i> ,	Goran (or Goranach),	Cow parsnip,	2,500	3	5,000	Aug. 17
<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> ,		Corn bind weed,	200	3	600	Sept. 26
<i>Galopis latifolium</i> ,	Neannlog,	Henbit nettle,	500	4	2,000	
<i>Bartsia odontites</i> ,		Red bartsia,	400	12	4,800	Oct. 1
<i>Leontodon taraxacum</i> ,	Castanerbhain,	Dandelion,	12	170	2,040	
<i>Centaurea jacea</i> ,	Gob-an-Ghainim,	Hardhead scabious,	50	80	4,000	Sept. 10
" <i>nigra</i> ,		Blackhead,	50	60	3,000	
<i>Athamis cotsala</i> ,	Bream-les.	Stinking chamomile,	271	150	40,550	Sept. 23
<i>Matricaria chamomilla</i> ,	Moflin,	Mayweed,	150	300	45,000	Oct. 14
<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> ,	Easpuig-ban,	Ox-eye daisy,	45	300	18,500	Sept. 18
<i>Arctium lappa</i> ,	Copog tannahall,	Burdock,	613	40	24,520	Oct. 1
<i>Scorzonera oliveracea</i> ,	Bleacht Phoetha-dan,	Sow thistle,	100	250	25,000	Sept. 6
<i>Carduus acanthoides</i> ,		Stemless thistle,	6	100	600	Sept. 8
<i>Papaver dubium</i> ,			100	600	60,000	Oct. 14
<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i> ,	Copog straide,	Common dock,	18,000		18,000	Sept. 15
<i>Euphorbia exigua</i> ,		Dwarf spurge,	500	3	1,500	Sept. 19
" <i>peplus</i> ,	Gairneach,	Patty spurge,	400	3	1,200	Sept. 11
" <i>heliocarpa</i> ,		Sun spurge,	324	8	972	Oct. 14
<i>Lepidium campestre</i> ,	Daillog bhaithe,	Nipplewort,	560	15	8,400	Sept. 23

Annexed are the names of some of the most noxious weeds, with compound flowers, which I have been informed by Doctor Mackay, author of the 'Flora Hibernica,' grow wild in Ireland, and all of which produce seeds in the greatest quantity:—

COMMON NAMES.	BOTANICAL NAMES.
1. Spear plume thistle.	<i>Cnicus lanceolatus</i> .
2. Marsh plume thistle.	<i>Cnicus palustris</i> .
3. Creeping plume thistle.	<i>Cnicus arvensis</i> .
4. Wilted thistle.	<i>Carduus acanthoides</i> .
5. Slender-flowered thistle.	<i>Carduus tenuiflorus</i> .
6. Dandelion.	<i>Leontodon taraxacum</i> .
7. Ox-eye daisy.	<i>Chrysanthemum leucanthemum</i> .
8. Corn marigold.	<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> .
9. Rough hawkbit.	<i>Apargia hirta</i> .
10. Autumnal hawkbit.	<i>Apargia autumnalis</i> .

Of so much importance has the eradication of weeds been considered in the Colony of Victoria, that an Act has been recently passed to insure their destruction; the owner or occupier of the land on which they grow may be ordered by a Justice of the Peace to destroy them, and is liable to a fine if he does not comply—a course which, if followed in this country, would be gratefully received by the farming classes, and be productive of

great national benefit, as, according to the experiments of Sir John Sinclair, already referred to, the land, WHEN KEPT FREE FROM WEEDS, WILL YIELD A MUCH GREATER AMOUNT OF PRODUCE.

It will be gratifying to your Excellency to learn that, in addition to the letters given in the Appendix, promising assistance in the improvement of Irish agriculture, by the eradication of weeds, I have received from very many influential parties, to whom I am personally unknown, communications expressive of their entire approval of what has been termed by some of them the 'National Crusade against Weeds.' I also learn, from copies of almost every journal in Ireland, kindly sent to me by the editors, that the Press has, without exception, given its powerful aid to the same object—one which most happily has received your Excellency's marked approbation. And I confidently trust, from the opinions so unequivocally expressed in every quarter, that much and permanent good will be effected by bringing the present great neglect on this subject prominently under public observation.

In the observations on the Agricultural Abstracts for last year [1856] I had the honour of stating the measures taken by me to call public attention to the great injury and loss caused by the non-removal of weeds from farms and the sides of high roads, railways, and canals. I am now informed, that in some localities improvement has taken place; but on account of the unchecked growth of weeds in so many places, as well as in the fields and hedge-rows of the slovenly and careless farmer, the efforts of those desirous to effect their eradication are, in a great measure, frustrated. To the extensive circulation of the information given in the Abstracts for 1856, as authorized by your Excellency, and to the able appeals on the subject which have appeared in the public press, this improvement may be attributed; *until legislation, however, affords some remedy to those who keep their lands free from weeds against such parties as allow them to grow and seed, to the injury of the adjoining lands, the practice of clean agriculture in Ireland cannot, I fear, be hoped for*; because, if a farmer sees that the expense which he incurs in removing weeds is thrown away, owing to his careless neighbour poisoning the fields around with the seeds of noxious plants, he will naturally feel that it is hopeless to eradicate them, as they are replaced by the vigorous stock growing on his neighbour's holding. With a view to keep this subject before the agricultural community, I, last spring, issued a circular to the several Assistant Barristers, soliciting their aid. It was most courteously received, many of them having addressed the parties attending Quarter Sessions, on the great advantages which must arise, owing to the increased yield of land when kept free from weeds, as is clearly shown by the experiments of that eminent and distinguished man, the late Sir John Sinclair. [See page 25.]

So important has this subject become, that for an essay upon it a prize was awarded by the Royal Agricultural Society of England last year;—the successful author, Professor Buckman, of the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, gives the following practical methods for removing weeds from the soil:—

*"On the Extirpation of Weeds.*—The extirpation of weeds would appear in theory a much easier matter than in practice it is found to be, for the seeds of wild plants constituting weeds are so universally distributed, that, though they may differ in kind at different places, yet, wherever a crop will grow, there also will weeds flourish, if allowed. There would also appear to be species of weeds peculiar to certain crops, species which appear in one crop and not in another; the charlock is a familiar example of this, as it will often make its appearance in great quantities after the breaking up of pasture or old sainfoin lea, where it had not been observed before for years. Evidence of this may also be obtained from the vast quantities of wild plants which spring up in woods after trees and underwood have been removed; so quickly and so abundantly, indeed, as to convince us that their seeds must have lain dormant, only awaiting the required circumstances to vegetate. Newly-formed earthworks frequently cause the sudden growth of wild plants, which have never before been observed in the district. Hence, however careful we may be to destroy weeds in one crop, we shall assuredly have some fresh species with the next, as well as fresh plants of the same, in consequence of dormant seeds having been brought within the power of growth by newly stirring the soil; from which it is obvious that weeds are not to be eradicated by one effort, however vigorous it may be.

"The getting rid of weeds would appear to resolve itself into the two following heads:—

"1st. *Destroying those already in the soil.*

"2nd. *Preventing others being sown.*

"The first of these must be considered with reference to those weeds which are already rooted in the soil, that is, weeds of a perennial character, as well as those annual weeds the seeds of which have been scattered at different periods.

"Perennial and deep-rooted weeds can only be got rid of by properly preparing the fallows, to which end farm-work should always be got as forward as possible. One of the most common causes of the continuance of weeds is, that work is delayed until it is time to get in the seed for the crop, when untoward weather, want of time, or some other cause, prevents the possibility of that thorough cleaning which is necessary to get rid of weeds. *Seed is thus put into foul land, which must wait until a more convenient season for being cleaned.*

"In the usual process of arable farming, preparation of the soil by ploughing, scuffling, harrowing, and exposure to sunshine and drought, clears the land of a great quantity of weeds; but if we observe the depth to which the underground stems of couch, coltsfoot, bindweed, and such-like plants penetrate, we shall see at once that this is not sufficient to exterminate the enemy; but, having done this in the most careful manner, we may observe that there are still spots left here and there in a field where these weeds flourish. Now, it appears to me that the best method of dealing with a case like this, is to go carefully over the ground after the crop is removed, and dig up the weed-patches with a three-pronged fork. With this implement they can be followed in their direction and depth; and thus, by a simple employment of day-labour, these isolated nurseries of mischief may, if not too numerous, be readily, perfectly, and cheaply broken up. Indeed there is no mode so efficient as this; and, from long observation of the natural history of weeds of this kind in arable fields, I am convinced that more may be done by the fork towards the complete eradication of deep-rooted weeds than by any other means.

"There are some of these deep-rooted weeds which are exceedingly

"troublesome in pastures, such as the stinging-nettle, butter-bur, and "bistort. These occur in patches, some in the corners of the field, others "in wet places, while the bistort will be found occupying isolated spots in "the centres of meadows. These cannot well be attacked by digging them "up. The best plan of treating them is to regularly mow them down, "when their stems grow a few inches above the surface of the ground. "The principle upon which this is recommended is, that the leaves are "absolutely necessary to the extension of the whole of the parts of a plant; "if, therefore, these are continued to be destroyed in proper time, the "extinction of the underground stems is ultimately insured; it will not "do, however, to leave them until the usual period of mowing, as at that "time the plants will have advanced to maturity, and the leaf function "have been fully performed. An observance of this law will be of great "use in destroying many weeds, in situations where the roots cannot be "got at; let it simply be borne in mind, as *the leaves are the lungs of the plant, never in such cases to allow the lungs to develop themselves.*

"The prevention of Weeds-sowing.—Weeds are constantly being sown "under many circumstances, the chief of which may be stated as follows:—

"Weeds are sown with the seed for the crop.

"Weeds are spread over the land by manures.

"Weeds are perpetuated by being allowed to seed.

"Weeds are disseminated from road-sides, and waste land, or from a "badly managed farm to a good one, chiefly by 'flying seeds.'

"Sowing of Seeds.—That weeds are perpetuated notwithstanding the "most careful preparation of the land, by sowing them with our seeds, is "a fact too well known to be disputed. Six years ago we saw a field "sown with foreign flax-seed, which came up full of black mustard,— "Sinapis nigra, much to the injury of the crop: this has ever since been "a troublesome weed in the field, and has even been the means of disseminating "it over a great portion of a farm on which it was previously "almost unknown. Again, many weeds are sown with clover seeds, "sainfoin, and the like, which, though they may not make way during "the covering of the ground with the crop, may yet appear in some future "crop. From this it follows, that too much care cannot be taken to get "clean seed, and it wants but little botanical skill to detect the presence "of weeds in a sample. Pure or clean seed is even worth paying a greater "price for, as the reverse may entail trouble and expense for years. Any "mechanical processes, therefore, which can be made available for cleaning "seed are well worthy of patronage. A seedsman who will be careful in "the preparation and collection of seed deserves the best support. In "order also to assist in this matter, farmers should be particular not to "allow a dirty patch to stand for seed, although it may be 'the most profit- "able thing they could do with it.'

"Weeds and Manure.—It is too much the custom to consider that the "power of germination of seeds is destroyed by decomposition in manure "heaps. That some are so, when the manure has been thoroughly decom- "posed there can be no doubt; but many are not, and with those that "are the process is too uncertain to be relied upon. We have seen quan- "tities of pulled docks and of crow-garlic thrown upon a heap to decay, "and afterwards noticed vetches manured therewith to be full of these "troublesome weeds. Neglected manure-heaps are often covered with a "profuse vegetation, which thereon produce enough weed-seeds to stock a "farm. In these cases the plants rendering the original seed were, doubt- "less, mixed with the straw of which the manure was made, and yet, "notwithstanding the vicissitudes they had to contend with, were not

“destroyed. Too much care, therefore, cannot be taken to prevent this “source of mischief, to which end it will always be found best to burn “pulled weeds ; and in harvesting corn, docks, thistles, and the like, “should not be bound up with the sheaves, but, if practicable, left stand- “ing, and afterwards destroyed.

“Weeding should be done as early as possible, either with the horse- “hoe, common hoe, or sometimes the Dutch hoe, and, when thus *early* cut “down, may safely be left to wither on the ground ; but it should be “borne in mind that if any individual plants amongst them are shedding “their seed at the time, and are not taken away, the very hoeing insures “its safe plantation.

“It is precisely in this way that coltsfoot is often much increased. “The flowers of this plant appear in spring before the leaves. By the “time the seed is ripe the leaves become conspicuous ; the hoe is then set “to work to cut down the latter, by which the ripened seeds are sown, “when, if left, they might have flown away to a distance. Now, it may “be that the roots of the coltsfoot—for it is not destroyed by the hoe— “are forked out after the crop has been gathered ; but the sown seeds “will insure that the pest shall give us some more work to do at a future “time. The patches of coltsfoot flowers should, therefore, be cut down “as soon as they appear, and by this means we not only spoil the crop of “seeds, but cripple the growth of the plant by cutting off the leaf-buds. “Many other instances of a like kind might be adduced tending to show “that a knowledge of the natural history of weeds is of great importance “in enabling us to subdue them.

“*Dissemination of Weeds from Wastes.*—This is a matter that requires “serious consideration, and, having once obtained correct views upon the “subject, should incite to prompt and energetic action. It is well known “that some of the most pernicious weeds are to be found amongst the “Composite, a natural order of plants to which the *Sonchus*, *Leontodon*, “*Carduus*, *Tussilago*, *Senecio*, and *Centaurea* belong. Now, in all these “plants we may observe that their seeds are crowned with a feathery “down—the *Pappus* of botanists—which acts as a tiny parachute, en- “abling such seeds to be wafted here and there by the slightest breeze, “and thus they float for miles. It, therefore, follows that however par- “ticular we may be in trying to subdue them in our cultivated fields, yet “waste places and waysides, where many species like to dwell, if not “attended to will ever afford a nursery for many of the most objectionable “weeds. Waste places, therefore, on every farm—if there be such— “cannot too carefully be looked to in this matter ; and, if the principle be “fully recognised, the keeping roads in order, especially in rural districts, “will comprehend *weeding the waysides*. We once saw a farmer employ men, “in a not over busy time, in mowing thistles on a good breadth of road run- “ning through the middle of his farm, but, unfortunately, the seed was ripe “when this was done, and, as the thistles were left where they fell, the “dissemination of their seeds was not prevented. This, therefore, is a “matter which seems to belong to the overseer of the road, and the plea “of idle time should never be recognised.

“But, unfortunately, it is not always that these evils emanate from “mere waste places and roadsides. One bad and dirty farmer may preserve “weeds enough to continue a supply to a wide range of neighbours ; in “which case it would not seem unreasonable to call upon him to render “compensation for damages.

“*The weeds of hedge-banks and fences* are innumerable : many wild

"flowers, not in our list, by growing in such situations, are weeds. Couch, "eleavers, bindweed, and bryony are among the most troublesome, especially when they occur in young quicks. To insure the growth of the fence these must be removed, and, indeed, should never be suffered to make head. This can be done with a small fork, handled with judgment, so as not to disturb the roots of the hedge. By this means we may not only remove the weeds, but the operation contributes to the fertility of the soil, and thus the hedge more quickly overtops what, but for this attention, would completely smother it. In this case, as in most others, it is safer to burn what we remove than to remove it to the dunghesp or to let it lie about. We knew a farmer who offered his cottagers 3d. "the bushel for weed ashes; and as a description of the manner in which a cottage family proceeded to make them may be useful and interesting, it is here given:—The refuse of the garden was first put together in a heap, and covered with turf from the roadside; this, on being fired, burnt in a smothered manner; the children brought all the weeds and refuse they could collect from time to time, and added it green to the rest, and, by the occasional addition of turfs, a continued smothered fire was kept up for weeks; in one cottage garden was as much as fifty bushels, and the process still going on. With these ashes the farmer always did well in his turnip crop, so that not only was an exterminating warfare carried on with our enemies, but they were destined ultimately to be converted into food; and we cannot better conclude this essay than by saying—Always destroy the life and reproductive power of weeds, even by fire, if necessary."

And on this subject, one of our most observant and popular authors, Mr. Charles Dickens, the able and distinguished Editor of 'Household Words,' in the number of that useful periodical for January last, after gracefully alluding to the exertions for the eradication of weeds, which were being made in Ireland, remarks:—

"Inasmuch, as Nature is resolved to spread her carpet where she can, and man knows very well that the green carpet with its pretty little flower patterns, must be taken up wherever the ground is to be tilled for special uses of his own, the need of constant watchfulness is obvious enough. To say that over a given space there shall grow nothing but wheat, if we mean earnestly what we are saying, is to declare war against all other growths which set up their own claims to the same land. It is a case of war arising out of territorial aggression. The farmers seize upon a territory occupied by various races of plants known to them by the rough general name of The Weeds. The weeds are got under, subdued, in a great measure extirpated, and the farmers then set up an iron rule over the soil, upon which they establish in rich colonies their own subjects, the cereals and green crops. The farmers justify their first aggression. The well-being of mankind depends, they say, on the predominance of the two races of cereals and green crops. What do the weeds care for this reasoning? The race of man has always trampled on them. They are the first owners of the soil. They claim it. They watch, therefore, the opportunity to rise, and every great rising of the weeds is attended with a frightful massacre of the new race. There is no mercy shown even to the newly born, whether of the green crops or the cereals. Thousands upon thousands of them are without pity smothered by the weeds, while others perish in their prime.

"Let us observe the common case of a fortified town in possession of

"a cereal colony, such as we may take a wheat field to be, walled with its  
 "hedges, moated with its ditches, and having its one or two great gates  
 "kept carefully closed. Not only is it frequently in England, and almost  
 "invariably in Ireland, plagued by the insubordination of the weeds allowed  
 "to live within its bounds, and to lie there at the root of general society ;  
 "but it is, every summer, regularly besieged by ragged regiments. There  
 "are the chickweeds, the hawkbits, the thistles, with their white plumes  
 "waving and their lances shouldered, the poppies, reddest of republicans,  
 "the black mustards, whose family, perhaps, has caused more tears to be  
 "shed than any race, except that of the onions. There are the nettles  
 "with their poisoned barbs, the dandelions each with fire upon his head.  
 "These storm the field, master the outworks, and do not a little mischief  
 "to the regiments that lift their shining spears within.      \*      \*

"It would appear that we are within the truth in saying that, where  
 "the weeds are not kept under, there is a loss incurred of one-fourth of the  
 "crop. The weeds rob the growth with which they are mixed of some  
 "part of the food which the ground holds for the use of plants; they clog  
 "the ground mechanically; they keep air and light from the young seed;  
 "they injure the crop seriously when there is high wind or heavy rain;  
 "they delay the processes of harvesting and stacking; and, by so doing,  
 "increase the farmer's risk; while the grain that has ripened under all  
 "these disadvantages, goes to the stack worse corn than it would have been  
 "had it been grown unaccompanied by weeds.

"The suppression of weeds has been considered in France a duty not  
 "unworthy of being enforced by law. A French farmer may sue his neigh-  
 "bour who neglects to destroy the thistles upon his land at the proper sea-  
 "sons, or he may employ people to do it at his neighbour's cost. In  
 "Denmark, there is a law to oblige farmers to root up the corn-marigold.  
 "The oldest regulation against the corn-marigold was, probably, that in a  
 "Statute of Alexander the Second of Scotland; which, in or about the year  
 "1220, denounced that man to be a traitor who poisons the King's lands  
 "with weeds and introduces into them a host of enemies. Bondsmen who  
 "had this plant in their corn were fined a sheep for each stalk, and a Scot-  
 "tish baron held what were called Gonl Courts, for the purpose of fining  
 "farmers in whose growing crops three or more heads of corn-marigold  
 "could be detected.

"In modern times a clause of a Bill which enforced the extirpation of  
 "weeds in hedges and along roadsides, passed our English House of Com-  
 "mons, but was thrown out by the Lords. Yet it is possible that great  
 "advantage might result from one or two legal provisions of this kind.  
 "The loss by weeds in England is not very great; in Ireland the fields are  
 "overrun with them."      \*      \*      \*      \*

It is satisfactory to state that the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society, the Royal Flax Society, and the North-East Agricultural Association, and many local farming societies, have aided this movement for the destruction of weeds. Extracts from the Reports and Minutes of some of these bodies are given at pages 42 and 43.

At the late meeting of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society, at Waterford, the following earnest and emphatic observations, which cannot fail to have a most beneficial effect, were addressed by His Excellency to a large and influential assemblage of landed proprietors and agriculturists:—

\*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*  
 "I know that the total extinction of weeds must be a work of time,

"and of gradual and continued effort, like all other great works;—but  
 "Delhi has not yet fallen—and Irish weeds are not yet extirpated; and  
 "I believe the one to be as essential to the real regeneration of Irish  
 "Agriculture, as the other is to the martial glory and stability of the  
 "Empire."

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COPIES OF LETTERS ADDRESSED TO VARIOUS PUBLIC  
 FUNCTIONARIES BY THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL, WITH  
 A VIEW TO THE DESTRUCTION OF WEEDS IN IRE-  
 LAND.

No. 1.

Agricultural Statistics Office,  
 5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,  
 21st February, 1856.

My Lord,

I beg to state that, in connexion with Agricultural Statistics, I have, with the sanction of the Government, for some years past, procured Returns from every Constabulary District in Ireland, which unfortunately exhibit a great prevalence of Weeds, not only on large tracts of land, *but also along the sides of Public Roads*, in almost every County.

I enclose a Copy of the Form on which this information has been furnished to me by the Enumerators; and the results are given in my Report on Agricultural Statistics for 1854, a copy of which I had the pleasure of presenting to your Lordship.—(*Vide pp. xxi, xxii, xxiii.*)

I annex the Copy of a Resolution setting forth the injury arising from the *growth of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads*, which was addressed in 1854 to the Grand Jury of each County, by the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society.

My reason for now bringing these circumstances under your notice is, respectfully to solicit that, on public grounds, and as tending to a great social improvement, *your Lordship may, perhaps, be pleased, at the approaching Assizes, to direct the attention of the Grand Juries, and County Surveyors, to an object which is calculated to be of much benefit to the Farming Classes of Ireland.*

Trusting that you will pardon the liberty which I take in addressing you on this subject,

I have the honour to be, your Lordship's faithful servant,

WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

To the Right Honorable

Judge \_\_\_\_\_,  
*sc., &c.*

ENCLOSURE.

42, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin,  
 21st February, 1854.

At a very full Meeting of the Managing Committee of the Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland, held this day—(upon the motion of Mr. Donnelly),

IT WAS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED—

"That, as great injury arises to the Farming Classes in this country

from the growth of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads, whose seeds being allowed to ripen and shed, are spread over the adjoining lands,

"A Circular be immediately addressed to the Grand Juries of the several counties, soliciting them to give directions to the County Surveyors to make it imperative upon Road Contractors to cut down and remove all Weeds, more particularly Thistles, Docks, and Rag Weeds, before the 1st of June, and at such other periods in the year as may prevent their injurious effects to the Farmer."

HENRY HALL (Colonel, C.B.), Chairman.

No. 2.

Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,  
7th July, 1856.

My LORD,

With reference to my letter of the 21st of February last, asking your Lordship to be so good as to direct the attention of Grand Juries and County Surveyors to the *pernicious growth of Weeds which is permitted along the sides of Public Roads, greatly to the injury of the Farming Classes of Ireland*, I now take the liberty of enclosing the Copy of a Circular addressed by me to all County Surveyors, in the hope that your Lordship may be pleased at the present Assizes to bring the subject before the several Grand Juries, with a view to the introduction of a Covenant into all Road Contracts requiring the destruction of Weeds along the sides of the Public Highways of the country.

Trusting that you will pardon this liberty,

I am, your Lordship's faithful servant,

(Signed) WILLIAM DONNELLY, Registrar-General.

The Right Honorable

Judge \_\_\_\_\_  
de., &c.

No. 3.

Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,  
5th July, 1856.

Sir,

As it is now universally admitted that great injury arises to the Farming Classes in Ireland, from the Growth of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads—Railways and Canals—and the shedding of their seeds over the adjoining lands, and as you are probably aware that the attention of many of the Grand Juries and County Surveyors was directed to the subject by the Judges of Assize at the last Spring Circuit, I take the liberty of addressing you, in the hope that, in your official capacity as Surveyor of the County of \_\_\_\_\_, you will obtain the authority of the Grand Jury at the present Assizes, in order that a special Covenant may be introduced into all Road Contracts, requiring the destruction of Weeds on the sides of the Highways, under your supervision. I beg here to inform you that the Lord Lieutenant considered the removal of Weeds *not only from Farms, but also from the sides of all Public Roads*, of so much general importance, that his Excellency was pleased to refer to the subject at a recent Agricultural Meeting of the Royal Dublin Society. Annexed is a table,

taken from my Report on Agricultural Statistics in 1854, which shows the great prevalence of Weeds on Road sides:—

"The degree in which Weeds prevailed on the sides of Roads, Railways, and Canals, is shown in four classes: in the first, the proportion kept generally free from Weeds is given; the second shows the proportion in which the removal of Weeds was only partially attended to; the third, the proportion in which this useful labour was almost entirely omitted; and the fourth class, that in which it was wholly neglected. According to the Returns received by me, the proportion under each of these classes is shown for 1853 and 1854, by Provinces:—

PROVINCES.	ROAD SIDES, &c.							
	First Class.		Second Class.		Third Class.		Fourth Class.	
	1853.	1854.	1853.	1854.	1853.	1854.	1853.	1854.
Leinster, . . . .	27	25	27	16	16	9	30	50
Munster, . . . .	24	17	30	17	19	9	27	57
Ulster, . . . .	23	18	30	25	26	17	21	40
Connacht, . . . .	18	14	25	16	19	9	38	61
Ireland, . . . .	94	18	26	19	19	11	29	52

The following is an extract from a Notice, addressed to Road Contractors by a County Surveyor of Ulster,—in which the destruction of Weeds is specially referred to in the Specification as *one of the conditions of the Contract*.

"Road Contractors will please take notice that no Certificates will be granted, unless their Roads have been kept in repair in accordance with the following Specification."

\*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*

"The Roads, Footpaths, and Fences, must be kept free from Weeds."

\*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*      \*

On Public Grounds, and more especially on account of the benefit which will arise to the Farming Classes of Ireland,—who so largely contribute to the maintenance of Public Roads,—I trust you will excuse my addressing you on this subject.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

To—

The County Surveyor  
of—

OBSERVATION MADE ON THE FOREGOING SUBJECT BY THE MASTERS IN CHANCERY.

"We beg leave strongly to recommend this matter to the consideration of the Receiver Master, our brother, Master Lyle."

WILLIAM HENN.      EDWARD LITTON.

WILLIAM BROOKE.      J. J. MURPHY.

July 19, 1856.

[I subsequently received the approval of Master Lyle personally.]—  
W. D.

## No. 4.

Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin;  
24th July, 1856.

GENTLEMEN,

May I take the liberty of requesting your attention to the accompanying Circular, addressed by me to the County Surveyors, relative to the destruction of Weeds along the sides of Public Roads in Ireland.

A copy of this Circular was forwarded by me to each Judge of Assize, Grand Jury, and Clerk of the Crown, for every County, previous to the late Circuit,—and it has, I am happy to state, been very favourably received,—the importance of the subject to the farming classes having been brought under the notice of the Grand Juries by their Lordships the Judges, in a very marked manner,—and I am informed that in future a special covenant will be introduced into Road Contracts, in those Counties in which the practice has not hitherto existed, requiring the Contractors to destroy all Weeds along the Sides and Fences of the Roads under their care.

I confidently trust that, on public grounds, you will excuse my addressing you on this subject, and that you will be so good as to give directions to have all Weeds *immediately* removed which may be found growing on the sides, embankments, cuttings, and fences of the Railway under your control, and thus aid in conferring a great benefit on the farming classes of the country, as it is scarcely necessary for me to observe, that the shedding of the seeds of Thistles, Dock, Ragweed, and other noxious plants,—which are now *fast approaching to maturity*,—must *cause great injury to the occupiers of land adjoining those Railways along which this most useful labour has been hitherto omitted*.

I am, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

WILLIAM DONNELLY, Registrar-General.

To the Chairman and Directors  
of the——Railway.

## No. 5.

Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,  
10th July, 1856.

SIR,

Referring to my conversation with you on the 5th instant, I beg to enclose the copy of a letter addressed by me to the Judges of Assize, and also the copy of a Circular to the Surveyor of each County, pointing out the great importance of the destruction of Weeds along the sides of Highways,—I am happy to add that these have been most favourably received in every quarter.

As this, I think, may be considered a subject of National interest, it occurred to me, as I have already stated to you, that the Irish farmers would be greatly benefited if their children who attend the National Schools were impressed with the feeling that the growth of weeds is most injurious to a proper system of cultivation; and that the pupils of these schools should be requested by their Teachers to destroy all Weeds found growing on the farms of their parents.

As I understood you to concur with me in the importance of the subject, may I request you will be so good as to bring it under the notice of the Commissioners of National Education, at their meeting to-morrow, in order to obtain their approval to directions being given to the Inspectors of your Schools, to call the attention of the Teachers, not only of the Agricultural, but also of all other Schools in connexion with the Board of National Education, to the great benefit certain to arise to the farming classes of Ireland, by instructing the pupils as to the necessity of destroying Weeds. I need scarcely add, that the seeds of Thistles and all other noxious Weeds are now fast advancing to maturity.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

(Signed), WILLIAM DONNELLY, Registrar-General.

To the Right Honorable  
Alex. MacDonnell, &c., &c.

REPLY.

Office of National Education,  
21st August, 1856.

Sir,

We have had the honour of laying before the Commissioners of National Education your letters of the 10th July and 18th instant, relative to the great importance of the destruction of Weeds along the sides of Highways.

We are directed to state in reply, that the Commissioners cordially approve of the suggestion you have made, that the children attending the National Schools should be instructed by their respective Teachers as to the necessity of destroying all Weeds found on the farms of their parents, or on the Highways adjacent thereto.

The Commissioners will, therefore, have much satisfaction in pointing out to their Inspectors the steps necessary to be taken for carrying your suggestion into effect.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants,

MAURICE CROSS, }  
JAMES KELLY, } Secretaries.

William Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,  
Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin.

[The number of pupils attending National Schools exceeds half a million.]

No. 6.

Church Education Society for Ireland,  
Kildare-street, Dublin,  
28th August, 1856.

Sir,

In accordance with your request to the Rev. Alexander Loper (Chaplain to the Society), relative to the importance of destroying weeds along the sides of highways, &c., your letter of the 22nd instant was laid before the Committee of the Church Education Society. I am directed, in reply, to state that the Committee very cordially approve of your suggestion, that the children attending Church Education Schools should be instructed by their teachers as to the necessity of destroying all

weeds found on the farms of their parents, or on the highways adjoining thereto. The Committee will make the matter known to all their students under training for the post of teacher, as also to their inspectors, to whom they will give the necessary instructions.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JOHN BANKS, R.N., Assistant-Secretary.

Wm. Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,  
Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin.

[The number of children attending Church Education Schools exceeds *ninety thousand.*]

No. 7.

Poor Law Commission Office, Dublin,  
5th August, 1856.

SIR,

The Commissioners for administering the Laws for the relief of the Poor in Ireland acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, transmitting copies of two circulars issued by you, one addressed to County Surveyors, and the other to the Directors of Railways and Canals in Ireland, relative to the destruction of Weeds; and the Commissioners desire to inform you that they have directed that copies of your letter, and of the circulars which accompanied it, be transmitted to the Boards of Guardians of the several Unions in Ireland, and that their attention be called to your suggestion, that the *children in the workhouse schools should be instructed as to the injury arising from, and the necessity for destroying, Weeds on the farms upon which, in after life, they may be employed.*

By Order of the Commissioners,

B. BANKS, Chief Clerk.

William Donnelly, Esq.,  
Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street.

No. 8.

Office of Public Works, Dublin,  
4th August, 1856.

SIR,

I am directed by the Commissioners of Public Works to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 31st ultimo, respecting the destruction of Weeds growing on embankments, or heaps of earth formed during the progress of works under the control of this department, and, in reply, to acquaint you that the Commissioners will be happy to co-operate in carrying out the very desirable object contemplated by you, and will issue instructions to their officers accordingly.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

E. HORNBURY, Secretary.

William Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,  
Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street.

## No. 9.

Board-room of the Governors of the Schools  
founded by Erasmus Smith, Esq.,  
11, Kildare-street,  
13th September, 1856.

Sir,

In reply to your letter, dated 5th instant, I beg to say that the Governors have ordered a circular to be addressed to their teachers, directing them to carry out your suggestion, that the pupils attending the Governors' Schools should be instructed as to the necessity for *destroying weeds on the farms of their parents and elsewhere.*

I have the honour to be, your obedient servant,

EUSTACE THOMP, Assistant-Registrar.

Wm. Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General,  
Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street.

In addition to the foregoing correspondence, the following extracts will show that great interest is now taken in the subject of the destruction of weeds in Ireland:—

*Royal Society for the Promotion and Improvement of the Growth of Flax in Ireland.*

Extract from the Report, dated 28th November, 1856:—

“*Extirpation of Weeds.*—Mr. Donnelly, the Registrar-General, has most wisely called public attention to the great loss occasioned by inattention to the weeding of growing crops, and to keeping the margins of roads, railways, and canals, free from weeds. Your Committee hope that his very valuable and practical suggestions will have the weight they merit. They have always, in their printed instructions, and through the teachings of the Society's agents, urged the necessity of weeding the flax crop, and have published Professor Dickie's paper on the parasitic plants which infest it. They now trust that Mr. Donnelly's highly important efforts will direct increased attention to the subject, as no crop suffers more than flax from inattention to weeding.”

*Royal Agricultural Improvement Society of Ireland.*

Copy of a Resolution unanimously adopted at the Half-yearly Meeting held on the 18th of December, 1856,

The Earl of Clancarty in the Chair.

Proposed by Lord Clonbrock, and seconded by Mr. Naper, of Loughcrew:—

“That the Society takes this opportunity of expressing its entire approval of the exertions of the Registrar-General in calling public attention to the importance of the destruction of Weeds on the tillage and pasture lands of this country, and the Society trusts that the Local Farming Societies will, as far as practicable, use every exertion—by

annexing suitable conditions as to clearing of lands from Weeds, in the distribution of their premiums—in order to accomplish this important object."

*North-East Agricultural Association of Ireland.*

Extract from Annual Report, dated 16th of January, 1857:—

" In their Report, the judges of farms directed the attention of this Association to a subject which has been ably brought under public notice by William Donnelly, Esq., Registrar-General, in his last Report on the 'Agricultural Statistics of Ireland'—the importance of destroying weeds. Your Committee would urge every member of this Society to use his utmost exertions, both *by example and precept*, to get rid of these pests of the farm, which are not only most unsightly, but a source of great loss to himself and serious injury to his neighbour.

" Your Committee would also suggest that an application be made to the Irish Government, to have a Bill for the Prevention of the Growth of Weeds brought into Parliament."

The following Circular was addressed to the Magistracy, the Clergy of all Denominations, and other influential parties in Ireland, when sending them the Abstracts of Tillage and Live Stock:—

Agricultural Statistics Office,  
5, Henrietta-street, Dublin,  
October 20, 1856.

SIR,

In forwarding to you the accompanying abstracts and observations on the extent of Tillage and Number of Live Stock in Ireland, in 1855 and 1856—which I trust you will find interesting—I would earnestly solicit your attention to my remarks in reference to the extraordinary, and almost incredible growth of Weeds which is permitted along the sides of Public Roads, Railways, and Canals, as well as on many of the farms of Ireland. I say almost incredible, for it would be quite so, did not our every-day experience of their condition in this respect, convince us of the fact:—so important, indeed, has the subject become, that it has called forth the marked observations of His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, at the late Cattle Show of the Royal Agricultural Society at Athlone, as well as on former occasions; also of Her Majesty's learned Judges of Assize, and of the Grand Juries of almost every county in Ireland, during the late circuits. It may be truly said that a great social evil has imperceptibly grown up amongst us, until at length the attention of a large portion of the community has been turned towards it, with the view of finding a proper and permanent remedy: this happily, is within our reach; for, if the *landed proprietors, the resident gentry, and the clergy of all denominations, aided by the intelligent and improving Tenant Farmers of the country*—who are themselves the greatest sufferers from the present lamentable apathy and neglect—will only act upon the advice of His Excellency, and of Her Majesty's learned Judges, I feel I am not too sanguine in expressing my conviction that, in a few years, a most propitious change will have taken place, and the surface of this beautifu

Island—now covered in so many places by large masses of thistles, and of yellow, scarlet, and other noxious weeds, which are permitted to grow and thrive, and scatter their baneful seeds far and wide—would then become what Providence designed her, and we now vainly boast her to be—the “Emerald Isle.”

The extracts which I have given in the accompanying Report from the writings of that true patriot, Sir John Sinclair, clearly prove *the great pecuniary loss arising from neglect in weeding cereal crops*. There is, however, another reason for weeding them, quite distinct from the important national question of *the loss in yield*,—which must attract the notice of every person who is not already familiar with it. I allude to the acute pain caused to the laborious reapers of our harvests, *when grasping the corn in the act of reaping*, by which, if the crop abounds with thistles and other prickly weeds, as is too frequently the case, the hands of the reapers are severely wounded. I have myself made inquiry from several parties of reapers from various counties, and from all of them I learned, that they would much sooner cut down and bind an acre of corn free from thistles and other weeds for *four or five shillings* less than they would a “dirty” crop—the reason invariably given being the additional time occupied in cutting down the latter, and the injury done to their hands by grasping the prickly weeds when reaping;—to use their own expressive words, “their hands were often so festered and destroyed by thistles, that they had to give up their work.”

I would beg, therefore, to observe, that *Self Interest*,—by obtaining an increased yield (as clearly shown in the writings of Sir John Sinclair, from which I have quoted); *Economy*,—even on *small farms*—as the children of the farmers might, in the spring season of the year, when the weeds are tender, assist in cleaning the crops, and thus aid in economizing the additional four or five shillings an acre, which, as I have stated, are paid for reaping “*dirty crops*,” but not least of all, *Sympathy for the poor reaper and binder* of our harvests, will, I most respectfully venture to hope, insure the co-operation of all classes, and the continued aid of the public press, in the attempt now being made to draw attention to the importance of destroying weeds in Ireland.

My observations have been hitherto confined to the great loss and injury caused by neglect in weeding *cereal crops*; but it must be evident to every one that an equal, if not greater, amount of damage arises in many counties from the *shedding of the thousand seeds* of thistles and other noxious plants, which is but too generally permitted on the *grazing farms* of the country. I feel I am warranted in stating that the owners or occupiers of these grass lands are usually indifferent on the subject, and object to the expense of destroying weeds, asserting that they do *themselves* no injury. Although these parties may not be sensible of their loss, yet it cannot be denied that *THEIR NEIGHBOURS*, the unhappy tillage farmers, for miles around, suffer from the seeming neglect of the opulent grazier. Does not this state of things require a remedy? Why, I would beg to ask, should not Ireland rival England and Scotland in the care of her crops?—or why should she be behind that best of agricultural models—Belgium? Happily this is not a political or party question, but one in which all may cordially unite for the benefit of our common country; and therefore it is that I respectfully ask for your influence and friendly co-operation to aid in eradicating weeds from the farms of Ireland. To those who feel an interest in the progress of the country, it will, no doubt, be gratifying to learn from the correspondence given in the Appendix to the Abstracts of Tillage and Live Stock, sent herewith, that instruction as to the

importance of destroying Weeds will in future form part of the educational course in the National schools, as well as in those in connexion with the Church Education Society and other influential bodies; from which it is to be hoped much benefit may arise to the farming classes of the country.

I take this opportunity of stating how deeply sensible I am of the kind and valuable assistance afforded to me, during the last six years, by the magistracy and clergy of all denominations, and by the public press of Ireland, in reference to the collection of these statistics. It also affords me the greatest satisfaction to express my obligations to my intelligent fellow-countrymen, the Tenant Farmers of Ireland, for their generous confidence, and the readiness with which they have given to the Enumerators the required information respecting their Stock and Tillage—an honourable example, well worthy of imitation by the farming classes in England.

I trust the importance of the subject to which I have now taken the liberty of calling your attention, will plead my excuse for troubling you at such length.

I am, Sir, your faithful servant,

WILLIAM DONNELLY, *Registrar-General.*

To —————

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The following extracts on the subject of the almost incredible growth of weeds which prevails in Ireland, are taken from the "Leisure Hour" for the months of May and June, 1873:—

#### IRISH AGRICULTURE

"Every traveller must be astonished at the neglect and waste of natural resources. Even in the pasture lands, in which Ireland most excels, the spontaneous liberality of the soil seems to induce the greater indolence and carelessness. The aid of art has been little used in laying down land to grass, for it is only recently that the trade in grass seeds has assumed any dimensions. Hay-making, as generally conducted, is a slovenly operation, though labour has been so abundant. Cut too late, I saw the grass often left in small cocks, to be drenched by the autumn rains. A good sweet hay-stack is the exception, not the rule, on an Irish farm. I never saw such a country for weeds. I saw two men in a field with scythes mowing down ragwort. Had I been travelling afoot or in a car, and not in a railway carriage, I would have sought an explanation of so strange a sight. Had the ragwort been sown as a crop, it could hardly have been closer, so as actually to be mown with scythes. Is it used as fodder for any Irish animal? I suspect it was only an extreme illustration of the miserable state of the agriculture too common in Ireland. The amount of weeds is a national disgrace. It is not uncommon to see a ton of weeds in a dozen tons of hay. Many a field has more weeds than a whole parish in England. Small tenants keep land without laying it down with grass seeds, and it becomes the receptacle for all the floating weeds of the district, and then spreads them far and wide. Even for green crops the land is seldom sufficiently

cleaned. Smoking heaps of twitch and weeds are rarely seen. If the farmer would give a small reward to boys for heaps of weeds, as they used to do for heads of vermin, they could keep this nuisance under. Ragwort, for instance, can easily be pulled up by the roots in wet weather, and the boys from the workhouse school would gladly attack a field for a trifling reward, and enjoy the fun of the bonfire that the heaps would make. But fields and road-sides are alike neglected, and weeds help to keep Ireland green but poor. *I am sure it is no exaggeration to say that the direct loss to Ireland from weeds is above a million and a half sterling. I have heard the loss estimated at nearly double that amount.* On the drainage of land vast sums have been expended, and under good management with wonderful results. But even in land that has been drained there is too general carelessness in scouring ditches and keeping the outlets of drains clear. It is better to have no drains than drains choked. In this matter, as in the curse of weeds, the careless, indolent habits of the people make agricultural progress up-hill work. Bad fences are also everywhere evident. The direct losses from the destruction of produce through this cause are enormous, and it is a constant source of litigation and ill-will. Want of industry and want of sense account for all the backwardness of Irish husbandry."—*Ireland in 1872: a Tour of Observation. By Dr. Macaulay, Editor of the "Leisure Hour."* (H. S. King & Co.)

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#### IRISH WEEDS.

The Vicar of Holywood, near Belfast, writes to the Editor of the "Leisure Hour":—

"I am interested in your remarks about weeds in Irish farming (quoted on p. 352 from 'Ireland in 1872.') You may be amused by the enclosed list of weeds found by me in one drill of turnips in a field five miles from Belfast, October, 1872.

"I think a handbill, pointing out the necessity of eradicating weeds and the time to do it, might be circulated, through clergy, magistrates, police, post office, &c., in Ireland, with good effect.

(Signed) G. ROBERT WYNNE,

Vicar of Holywood.

"Weeds found in one drill of unweeded turnips, five miles from Belfast, October, 1872:—

- Stellaria Media (chickweed).
- Ceratium triviale (varieties).
- Potentilla reptans (cinquefoil).
- Potentilla anserina (silver wood).
- Euphorbia helioscopia (spurge).
- Galeopsis Tetrahit (hemp nettle).
- Anthemis arvensis (com. chamomile).
- Epilobium parviflorum (willow herb).
- Polygonum aviculare (knot grass).
- Polygonum persicaria (persicaria).
- Mentha arvensis (mint).

*Gnaphalium uliginosum* (cudweed).  
*Linum usitatissimum* (flax).  
*Ervum hirsutum* (tare).  
*Tussilago farfara* (colt's foot).  
*Ranunculus repens* (crow's foot).  
*Achillea ptarmica* (sneezewort).  
*Holcus lanatus* (meadow soft grass).  
*Triticum repens* (couch grass).  
*Bellis perennis* (daisy).  
*Chrysanthemum segetum* (corn marigold).  
*Lolium perenne* (perennial ryegrass).  
*Senecio vulgaris* (groundsel).  
*Prunella vulgaris* (self-heal).  
*Sonchus arvensis* (sow thistle).  
*Capsella bursa pastoris* (shepherd's purse).  
*Atriplex patula* (orache).  
*Carduus*—several. (thistle).  
*Brassica sinapum* (charlock).  
*Githago segetum* (corn cockle).  
*Leontodon Taraxacum* (dandelion).  
*Stachys palustris* (?) (woundwort).

"All the above were in abundance, and the rest of the field seemed equally prolific.

(Initialed)

G. R. W."

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